THE NEW
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YOGA, CHYAWANPRASH IN GOVT'S POST-COVID CARE LIST

The Union health ministry on Sunday issued a care protocol for those who have recovered from the Covid-19 infection

SIGNS TO WATCH OUT FOR

The 'Post-Covid Management Protocol' also recommends the daily practice of meditation and breathing exercises. Recovered patients may also take a teaspoon of chyawanprash along with milk or warm water daily. One must watch out for and seek immediate medical help in case of high fever, breathlessness, unexplained chest ache or focal weakness

MONITOR TEMPERATURE, B.P. AT HOME

- The guidelines also call for regular monitoring at home of temperature, blood pressure, blood sugar and oxygen levels
- Those with persistent dry cough or sore throat have been advised to do saline gargles or steam inhalation
- The advisory recommends a balanced and nutritious diet

37.02 lakh

PEOPLE HAVE RECOVERED FROM COVID-19 IN INDIA

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

The 18-day monsoon session of Parliament will start from Monday | PTI

Loads of issues in unusual session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@New Delhi

STATE of the economy, tension between India and China, GST compensation to states, and the raging Covid-19 pandemic could dominate the monsoon session of Parliament beginning Monday. While the Opposition is gearing up to put the government on the mat on these issues, the Centre has a long list of legislative proposals to push through.

This time,the Parliament session will be much different because of the restrictions mandated by the Covid-19 protocol, with no Question Hour being allowed.

On Sunday, both Houses of Parliament had meetings of their respective Business Advisory Councils (BAC).

The Lok Sabha BAC will have another meeting on Monday to finalise the agenda for the next 18 sittings, while the Rajya Sabha will be allowing discussions on issues raised by the Opposition.

On Monday, Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan will make a statement on the Covid-19 situation in the Lok Sabha, while Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi will move an amendment on Question Hour as an exception for the current session.

Mandatory Covid test

All MPs have been asked to undergo Covid test and only those who received a negative report will be allowed to sit in the session

The Lok Sabha will take up only unstarred questions for which the government's answers will be tabled in the House, with no provision for asking any supplementary question.

With the Bihar Assembly elections close on the heels, the floor managers of the BJP-led ruling alliance are clear that the Opposition will not ease pressure on the government on the state of economy.

Meanwhile, the government is bracing to push 45 legislative proposals. Eleven Bills have been necessitated against Ordinances promulgated after the Budget session of Parliament was adjourned sine die due to the pandemic.

Govt open to early Covid shots before full Phase 3 vaccine trials

Emergency use likely for section of people like senior citizens, workers in high-risk settings

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @New Delhi

THE Centre is considering "emergency use authorisation" of Covid-19 vaccine, especially for senior citizens and people working in high risk settings, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan revealed on Sunday.

"This shall be done after a consensus has been reached," said Vardhan, while interacting with his social media followers through an online platform, called *Sunday Samvaad*.

The statement indicates that the government is planning to allow vaccination of a section of people even before Phase 3 trials of Covid-19 vaccine candidates are completed and their results analysed for safety and efficacy.

Curiously, the announcement comes close on the heels of the Trump administration in the US declaring a similar intent. Last week, the US Food and Drug Administration's office had, however, said drugmakers seeking emergency authorisation for Covid vaccine will have to meet a higher standard of efficacy than normally would be required for such a clearance.

Back home, senior officials in the health ministry, said while the Drugs and Cosmetics Act does provide for such an emergency use authorisation, it can be done only by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation — India's drug regulator — after analysing the limited data from early stage trials.

"Also, as of now, no vaccine maker or importer has approached the regulator for such an emergency use authorisation in India, which was granted in case of some drugs for Covid-19," said a top official. CONTINUED ON: P7

Shah back in AIIMS for full check-up

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who had recovered from Covid-19, was admitted to the AIIMS on Saturday night for complete medical check-up before Parliament session begins

Proning can cause nerve damage in very ill patients

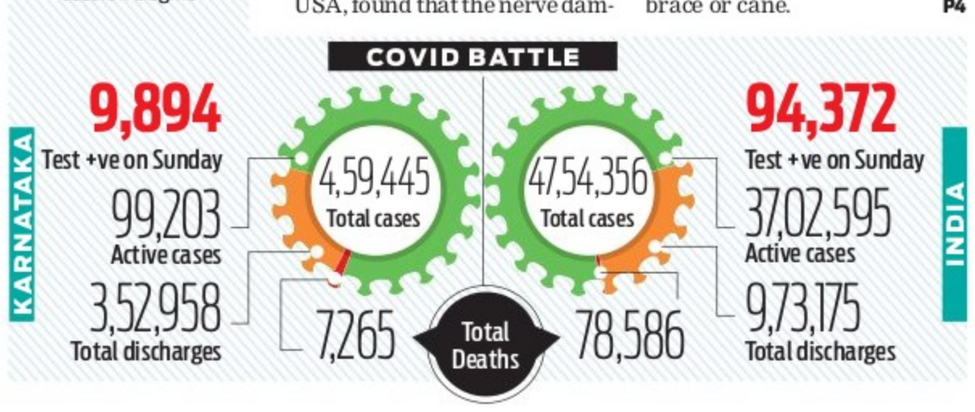
NIRAD MUDUR & IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

THERE is reduced mortality among those severely ill Covid-19 patients who are subjected to prone ventilation (made to lie on their stomachs while on ventilators to ease breathing), but they face the risk of damaged nerves and permanent disabilities post recovery, a new study has revealed.

The study has been accepted by the British Journal of Anaesthesia.

Researchers from Northwestern University's School of Medicine and Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, both in Illinois, USA, found that the nerve damage is the result of reduced blood flow — due to blood coagulation, a common feature in Covid-19 patients — and inflammation. They also found that such nerve damage did not occur among non-Covid-19 patients subjected to prone ventilation.

The most common injuries are wrist and foot drops, loss of hand functions and frozen shoulder, caused by distinct damage in the ulnar and radial nerves in the elbow, sciatic nerve linking the spine with the legs, and the common fibular nerve in the back of the knee. The study found some patients needed assistance, like a wheelchair, brace or cane. P4



EXPRESS READ

Nearly 90 pc attempt NEET, 1.19L in K'taka

New Delhi/Bengaluru: Nearly 90 per cent candidates appeared for the medical entrance exam — National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test — held at 3,800 centres across the country on Sunday. In Karnataka, over 1.19 lakh students wrote the test. P2,5

Ex-Union minister who rolled out NREGA dies

New Delhi: Former Union minister Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, under whose stewardship of the rural development ministry the NREGA was launched by the Manmohan government, died at AIIMS in the national capital on Sunday. He was 74. P7

Sreesanth's ban ends after seven years

New Delhi: India pacer S Sreesanth's ban for alleged spot-fixing came to an end on Sunday, concluding a seven-year punishment. The 37-year-old has already made it clear that he intends to resume at least his domestic career at the end of the ban.

Taking photos, videos allowed in flights

New Delhi: Aviation regulator DGCA clarified on Sunday that passengers can take photos and videos inside flights, but can't use any recording equipment that creates chaos, disrupts flight operations, violates safety norms or is banned by the crew. P7

WITH THIS ISSUE
THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex
32 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID) & 4 OF CITY EXPRESS

MORE SKELETONS WILL TUMBLE OUT IN WAR ON DRUGS: BOMMAI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

HOME Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday said that the coming week will be crucial in the crackdown on drug peddling and substance abuse.

The State Government will take certain key decisions by strengthening laws and the law enforcement agencies to fight the menace.

The names of those involved in the drug racket will be revealed as well, as the investigation would have reached a definitive stage by then, he said.

Briefing reporters, Bommai said the intelligence department will also be involved in a big way. "We have decided to further strengthen the Central Crime Branch (CCB) as it already burdened with several cases. Its purview and base needs to be strengthened more by posting more officials and providing more facilities," he said. CONTINUED ON: P4

Basavaraj Bommai
Govt will give instructions to police in border districts for stricter measures against drug trafficking

Kamal Pant, top cop
The CCB should be provided with independent legal experts to handle serious and sensitive cases

Police spread the net wide in narcotics trade probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Central Crime Branch (CCB) police who are investigating the Sandalwood drug racket case, are hot on the trail of Sheikh Faisal, believed to be a major drug dealer.

Faisal, who was a mechanic in Chamarajpet about 15 years ago, is said to have close links with several politicians, actors and cricketers. He has been on the run ever since the probe into the drug racket began and police are in touch with his family members.

With the police custody of actors Ragini Dwivedi and Sanjjanaa Galrani ending on Monday, the two reportedly pleaded with officers not to seek their further custody and to hand them over to judicial custody. On Sunday, the CCB officials also grilled a political leader in Hubballi as he was said to be in contact with Sanjanaa over the last few years.

Meanwhile, in Ghantikeri of Hubballi, the police arrested Sumer Singh Rajput of Sindagi and Samundar Singh Rajput of Azad Colony, and seized 6 kg of marijuana and a two-wheeler on Sunday. Both are natives of Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

In Belagavi, the police arrested Saheed Salim Peerjade (21), of Ashok Nagar in Belagavi and Kamaruddin Dastagir Khalifa (25), a resident of Vadgaon, and seized an autorickshaw and 700 gram of marijuana on Saturday.

CORONA EFFECT

B'luru's IT/ITeS firms eye office space in Mysuru to trim costs

AJITH M S @Mysuru

THE Covid-19 pandemic seems to have managed to achieve, albeit for starters, what the government has been pushing for all along — tech companies moving to tier-2 cities. With IT majors embracing the Work-From-Home culture and no signs of employees getting back to offices in the foreseeable future, many companies, specially those engaged in back-end operations, are looking at setting up shop in the heritage city.

With a readily available talent pool, many firms are on the lookout for office spaces in the city and some have moved operations. More importantly, they can save big on operating costs, especially property rents. A majority of them are units with 50 to 100 employees, but sources also say that some big names in the BPO and KPO industry, which have operations in Bengaluru, are also looking at larger commercial spaces in Mysuru.

Commenting on the trend, District Industries Centre Joint Director D K Lingaraju said that he has been approached by close to a dozen entrepreneurs looking to start businesses in Mysuru, primarily due to the cost advantage and availability of skilled workforce.

According to Vinayak, who runs a background verification outfit for larger companies, it was the cost that prompted him to look at Mysuru. "One of our partners is from Mysuru, which made it easier to find space. But the main factor is cost and talent is also cheap, which is significant since we are battling a slowdown and hiring is at an all-time low." Vinayak said he is setting up a 50-seater unit in Mysuru.

The city is also hosting several companies handling back-end operations for US-based clients like those engaged in processing health insurance claims and billing, that is seeing much demand globally.

Confirming this, Bhaskar Kalale, former president of CII Mysuru, said such companies are looking to operate from Mysuru as there is availability of talent, and also due to the presence of companies like Sys Information in the city, which is already engaged in similar processes. P5

Cabinet rejig: CM plans mid-week visit to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WITH cabinet expansion on top of the agenda, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa could be flying to New Delhi on the day of Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrates his birthday — September 17. During his visit on September 17 and 18, Yediyurappa will meet Modi and BJP national president J P Nadda. While discussions on cabinet expansion will be held during the meetings, the actual exercise will happen only after the legislature session, according to sources in the Chief Minister's Office.

The CM's New Delhi trip comes at a time when he is under immense pressure from within the party to expand the cabinet at the earliest. Sources close to Yediyurappa suggest that he is not keen on disrupting the cabinet for now, but has to at least make an effort to meet the party top brass and appease disgruntled legislators including the likes of Umesh Katti.

His planned trip is also making a few incumbent ministers jittery over the possibility of them being dropped from the cabinet in case of a rejig. P3

NO KID'S PLAY

Confined at home, children losing sleep over binge gaming

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

TEN hours – that's how much time children are into 'binge gaming' these days. Day is now night for children who are staying put at home as schools and colleges are shut due to the pandemic.

They are now binge gaming on their mobile phones in the night and sleeping during the day!

With schools and colleges yet to begin, parents have started to complain about their children losing sleep due to online shooting gaming during nights. An increase in cases of binge gaming among children is being reported at the National Institute Of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) SHUT Clinic (Services for Healthy Use of Technology).

Dr Manoj Sharma, Chief Clinical Psychologist at SHUT Clinic, stated that while cases of binge watching which were earlier common, where people would stream series for hours together, it is now binge gaming by children.

"More than 120 minutes of watching any web series was stated as binge watching which was a cause of concern. Internationally, children playing for over five hours a day was termed binge gaming. However, in India, we are seeing children on their phones for more than 10 hours and mostly playing during the night losing their sleep, which is the real cause of concern as it could affect their mental health," said Dr Sharma.

He stated that he has been observing an increase in cases of parents complaining of children losing sleep due to gaming after the pandemic started. CONTINUED ON: P5

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

02 BENGALURU | MONDAY 14.09.2020 | newindianexpress.com

ALMANAC TODAY

• **Monday** 14/09/2020 • **Year:** Sarvari • **Ayana:** Dakshinayana • **Ritu:** Varsha • **Masa:** Bhdrapada • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Dwadashi 9:45 pm • **Nakshatra:** Pushyami 1:08 pm • Moon in Simha Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am • **Gulikakala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER WATCH

MIN 21°C | MAX 26°C

FORECAST

Light showers. More clouds than sun

Sunrise 6.08 am | Sunset 6.21 pm | Moonrise 2.50 am | Moonset 4.01 pm

1.2 L WRITE NEET IN KARNATAKA, CHEMISTRY TOUGH, PHYSICS EASY

Say arrangements far better than KCET's; only 12 students allowed in each classroom

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MORE than 1.19 lakh students in the state on Sunday wrote the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test Undergraduate (NEET-UG) for admissions into medical colleges. The exam was held under the Covid-19 protocol.

The NEET 2020 is a pen and paper-based examination. The exam was deferred multiple times owing to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was originally scheduled for May 3, but was pushed to July 26, and then to September 13.

Students who attempted the examination told The New Indian Express that the arrangements were far better than during the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (K-CET) and the papers were easy.

"Physics paper was easier compared to last year while Chemistry was a little tough," said Aryan Mahalingappa, one of the aspirants.

"Chemistry and Biology papers were okay. The arrangement were also good," said Sanjana K, another student.

An NEET aspirant undergoes thermal screening at BBUL Jain Vidyalaya exam centre in; a woman removes her daughter's earrings before she enters the exam centre in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHRIRAM B N

She said "Frisking was done with a metal detector. And only 12 students were allowed in my classroom, with sufficient space between two students."

Pavan Gowda, another student, said that he was used to the new setup of examination because he had also taken the JEE Main exam held in the first week of this month. "We took our own sanitiser, gloves and mask, and there was a level of comfort," he added.

During the CET examination, incidents of lapse in social distancing were observed both after and during the examination.

"At the CET examination, the arrangements could have been better. As students from two classrooms were clubbed and the number of students increased in a room, we were very close to those in the next row," said a student who attempted both CET and NEET.

Exam season continues

As the NEET exams conclude, colleges across the state have started holding their final semester examinations that are due to complete by September 30. Students are also set to write the JEE advanced on September 27. Architecture Aptitude Test (AAT) will be held on October 8.

DyCM: Digi-education to benefit 5L students

Davanagere: Deputy Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan on Saturday said about five lakh students will benefit from the implementation of digital education across colleges and universities in the state. Addressing officials of Davangere University, he said the marks-based education system will come to an end within 30 months and by 2023, the entire higher education system will be based on skill development. The new education policy will be implemented from lower kindergarten to post graduation in a phased manner, so that students can face global challenges boldly. **ENS**

UVCE announces exam results within a day

Bengaluru: The University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering announced results of the final semester exams for its engineering students within a day on Sunday. Students of computer science, information science, electrical and electronics engineering, and electronics and communications received their results in record time after their lab exams were completed on Saturday. Immediately after the theory exam on September 8 at 5 pm, examiners collected papers and prepared the marking scheme. Among the students who wrote the exam, three were Covid patients. **ENS**

FOR A DOLL'S HOUSE

With the festive season around the corner, citizens buy Dasara dolls from a roadside vendor in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS READ

Forum felicitates vice-chancellors, professors

Bengaluru: The Forum of Former Vice Chancellors of Karnataka, on Sunday, felicitated three 'eminent professors and Vice Chancellors' on the occasion of Teacher's Day. The ones who were felicitated are B Sheik Ali, Founder Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore and Goa University and a historian P Venkataramaih, Former Vice-Chancellor, Kuvempu University and a Professor of Physics, and D Srinivasan, Founder Vice Chancellor North East Hill University, NEHU, Shillong and North Eastern Council. **ENS**

Residents pool in money, lay road

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FED up with the pathetic road condition, rising number of accidents and injuries, and BBMP's patchwork for three years, residents of Kanakagiri Layout, Ward 26, in Ramamurthy Nagar, took it upon themselves to lay a stretch of road. All they want is a smooth stretch at least till the monsoon lasts.

Over the weekend, residents pooled in resources and laid 450 metres of road next to Om Shakti Temple. They came together under the umbrella Sri Kanakagiri Nivasigala Sangha (KNS) along with Shantha Krishnamurthy Foundation, and collected over ₹1 lakh to get jelly stones, cement and hire a road roller.

Satish Chandra, president, KNS, told TNIE that each time a complaint was raised, BBMP would get some patchwork done. Work came to a standstill during the lockdown, and even now, Covid-19 is cited as the reason for delay in repairs.

"On Saturday, I decided to lay the road myself. To my surprise, all the neighbours joined me. We pooled in resources and started work, filling jelly stones and cement. We have completed 450 metres, and have decided not to allow any more digging till the monsoon ends," Chandra said.

The residents said they were aware of the ongoing BWSSB works, but due to this, were unable to step out of their homes because of slush and standing water. Repeated complaints were made to BBMP, with the last two being number 73185 and 10891589. Desperation led them to raise a complaint with the Prime Minister's Office too (No. PMOPG/E/2020/0787879).

Reacting to this, BBMP engineer Chandrashekhar said that legally, no one is allowed to repair a public road. "It can be done only in a private layout. The road was handed over to BWSSB to lay water and UGD lines as it was part of the 110 villages earlier. If they have laid the road, it will have to be dug up again. I will inspect the spot and discuss with BWSSB," he added.

MEDICAL MIRACLE

13-year-old cancer survivor gets artificial eye, part of face

RANJANI MADHAVAN @Bengaluru

GARIMA Kalita's ordeal started when she was diagnosed with head and neck cancer (fibromyxoid sarcoma), when she was 1 year, 9 months old, at the Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Centre in Narayana Health City here.

The 13-year-old from Assam had a relentlessly growing pediatric tumour which blocked her maxilla (upper jaw), nose and nasal cavity, forcing her to breathe with her mouth. Symptoms included repeated bleeding from the nose, and it also affected her overall growth.

"Removing the tumour, called debulking, was done in 2013, 2014 and 2015. Unfortunately, in 2017, the disease recurred more aggressively, with close proximity to intracranial contents or skull region. This affected her right eye, skull base, and extended to the dura which is the outermost cover of the brain. The eye had to be removed when she was 7 years old," said Dr Vijay Pillai, consultant and chief, Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, at Narayana Hospital.

Garima Kalita

In 2020, during follow-up, a small nodule (cancerous lump or tumour) was detected in her lungs, and removed with minimally invasive thoracoscopic surgery. "She faced discrimination in school, as other kids saw her as a girl with one eye and avoided playing with her. She requested doctors to give her an artificial eye," Dr Pillai added.

Garima got a midface silicone prosthesis which comes under the purview of maxillofacial prosthodontics, a branch of dentistry. Dr P C Jacob, consultant at Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Centre, stepped in to treat Garima, who needed a right eye, part of the forehead and nose.

"This was the largest defect I was going to rehabilitate with a silicone prosthesis (artificial body part). The difficulty was to retain such a large prosthesis. We fabricated customised 3D printed implants with magnets attached, which were fixed to the outer surface of the upper jaw," Dr Jacob said. "A customised eye shell was fabricated to match her eye, and natural hair was inserted one at a time, to make eyebrows and eyelashes." Some kajal made it look more natural.

Garima was instructed to remove the prosthesis at night and place it back in the morning unless she was travelling, and to clean around the implants.

The procedure, done over 15 days ago, was successful, and Garima has since returned to her home state, with a facelift.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

14th September: There's a great deal of confusion in the air as Venus links first with Saturn, the planet of stability, and then Uranus, the bringer of confusion. The press will still be full of stories of political chaos and financial uncertainty. As a matter of fact, this alignment has an impact over the next six months.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)

Prominent planetary patterns are likely to continue for a month at least, though the results should be to your liking. There is still at least another week to go before you can afford to relax. Even then you may have a number of vital questions to answer about your closest relationships - like whether you should really be so patient and understanding!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)

Take a deep breath in anticipation of the exciting times to come. You will be able to confide in partners or close associates and try to make them realise why you feel as you do. For your part, you can surely understand just why they should now be anxious. Happily, the Moon's gracious presence in Taurus offers full celestial protection.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You're heading for prosperous stars. A tie-up between your second and sixth solar houses brings superb chances of an increase in your earnings, perhaps as a result of a long-held dream, or a vision of how you could help make the world a better place. You're also in a generous mood, so likely to end the week worse off!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

It may be time to leave professional matters alone except in as much as they are closely bound up with your personal feelings. Everything in your life centres around your management of emotional partnerships, so give total devotion to people who have earned your support. And never imagine that you can go it alone!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Personal success is now assured, but you must be prepared to take other people's feelings, hopes and desires into account. Then you may find that the current period is one of great fulfilment in all intimate relationships. A secret is about to come into the open, so make sure you have your side of the story ready.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Your perspective at home could change around mid-week, when you will come to see the importance of adopting a clear long-term strategy, rather than being over-obsessed by trivial or unimportant details. At work, co-operation is vital, even if it means your taking second place for a couple of days.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

It is probably still too early to assess the state of play either at work or at home. I can only reassure you that, in the longer perspective, the potential of the current period is utterly remarkable. When Venus and Mars shift their positions next week, friends and colleagues should come to your aid in magnificent style.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

One planetary aspect is assuring you that all is well. Another is about to sweep the carpet from under your feet. Your advice for the week is to remain on the offensive but to remember that magnanimity in victory is a great virtue. Keep an eye on travel plans, otherwise there's an outside chance you'll get lost!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

There's been an excess of emotion, even of deception lately. It may be just as well that others have shown themselves in their true colours, and that you know the truth. Hopefully, you were alerted with enough time to sever any dubious or potentially disastrous financial involvements.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

Astrological predictions may be the last thing you need right now. However, it may offer you a sense of the larger scheme of things to understand that you are currently in the middle of a planetary battle royal. It should also help to know that, by next week, the storm clouds will have passed by.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Perhaps you should be thankful that so much has been, or is about to be, forced into the open. This is more than you could normally expect at such a time. All will be revealed when important planets align themselves with your house of partnerships next week.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

With Neptune, your graceful planetary ruler, placed in such a splendid, if mysterious location, you are bound to feel exhilarated by the sense that there is so much untapped potential. You may take your energies into a number of areas, either social and romantic, or creative and artistic. The final choice of expression is yours.

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

MY BOY, IF YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT, VERY SOON YOU COULD BE SITTING IN THIS CHAIR
WOW, BOSS! THAT'S QUITE A PROMOTION
IT'S ONLY A CHAIR, AND I'M DUE FOR A NEW ONE ANYWAY
GUESS WHO'S GOING TO BE SITTING IN THE BOSS'S CHAIR SOON?
GOODNESS, DEAR! THAT'S QUITE A PROMOTION!

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

		9			5	1		
				9		2		
2			4		8			
6	4			2			7	
1								6
	5			7			3	1
			9		2			7
		5		4				
		8	3			9		

EVIL

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

8	7	9	5	1	2	6	3	4
3	5	6	8	7	4	1	2	9
4	1	2	6	3	9	8	7	5
2	9	1	3	4	7	5	8	6
6	8	7	9	5	1	2	4	3
5	4	3	2	8	6	9	1	7
9	2	4	1	6	3	7	5	8
7	6	5	4	2	8	3	9	1
1	3	8	7	9	5	4	6	2

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BAITI

LUDWO

SOUMTT

PHREPO

What is all this? You need to deal with this mess right now!
Yes, dear.
THE ATTIC WAS BECOMING CLUTTERED, AND HIS WIFE WAS NO LONGER GOING TO ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: SUEDE BLISS FELINE SHROUD
Answer: When she saw that the brand-new mirror was cracked, she was — BESIDE HERSELF

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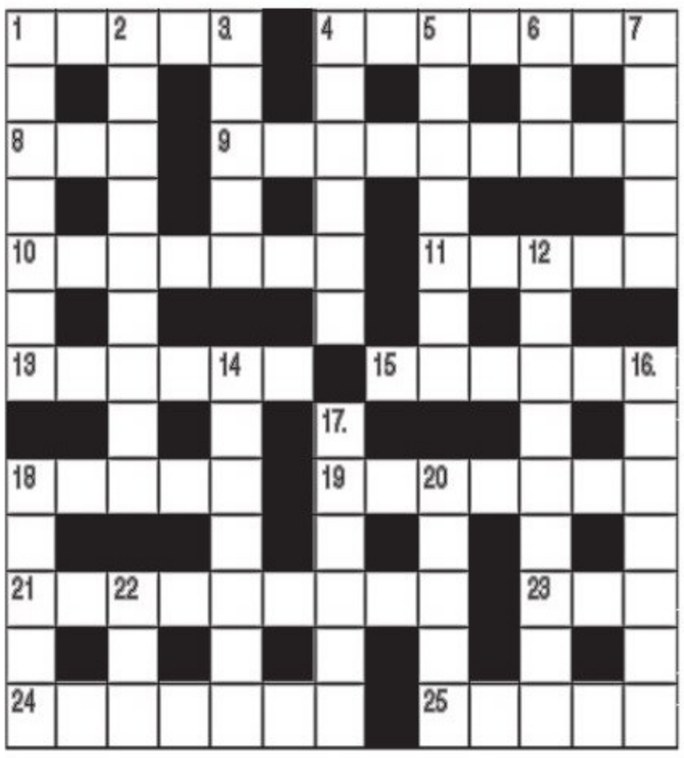
CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Girl's trousers (5)
4 Fled out when jeered at (7)
8 Cut-price lettuce (3)
9 Lack of will (9)
10 Some medicine appears to act on wise men (7)
11 Rise and dress (3-2)
13 I am in a rage it appears (6)
15 New plates may be made of metal (6)
18 Night flier on the staff (5)
19 The dull are attracted by variety (7)
21 They ignore national customs (9)
23 Faint from endless deprivation (3)
24 Chosen or chooser (7)
25 Start making pastries (5)

DOWN

1 Sailor put up money for the flier (7)
2 One who helps Satanists out (9)
3 Cast used to support injured arm (5)
4 Thief's unusual charm (6)
5 A new song hit right away (2,5)
6 What a caddy carries (3)
7 Cut the cackle and use the tea towel (3,2)
12 Upper class leading artist (3,6)
14 Thing to change into this evening (7)
16 Sending out terminations (7)
17 Rush into a job for life (6)
18 Cook beats a mixture (5)
20 Famous composer? Hear, hear (5)
22 Utilise part of the museum (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Wall Street, 8 Pagan, 9 Arbiter, 10 Torpedo, 11 Arena, 12 Oodles, 14 Hearse, 17 Lasso, 19 Inhabit, 21 Running, 22 Total, 23 Wanderlust.

Down: 2 Angered, 3 Lance, 4 Teapot, 5 Embrace, 6 Title, 7 Ornamental, 8 Potboilers, 13 Erosion, 15 Rebates, 16 Dingle, 18 Sinew, 20 Hotel.

Central Crime Branch police have made several arrests in the Sandalwood drug racket case, but Sheikh Faisal — a major drug dealer — has remained elusive.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Congress continues family tradition

Bracing against the constant onslaught of being called a 'party of dynasts' and 'family-run party', the Congress has made four important appointments with links to Karnataka. All four are dynasts. Maharashtra in-charge H K Patil's father K H Patil was a well-known leader and textile minister, Tamil Nadu in-charge Dinesh Gundu Rao is the son of former Karnataka Chief Minister R Gundu Rao, and Krishna Byregowda's father C Byre Gowda was former agriculture minister. Karnataka General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala's father Shamsher Singh Surjewala was former agriculture minister in Haryana. Obviously, it's a tag the Congress can't rid itself of. And did someone mention working presidents? Eshwar Khandre and Satish Jarkiholi are also to politics born.

No parties please, we are Bengalureans

Bengaluru's party scene is slipping into a coma. After Covid, it's the drugs scandal. As sleuths dig in their heels and unleash an all-out war against drugs, party animals are lying low, and even the odd party at isolated farmhouses is being called off. In fact, many Page 3 sorts fear that those holding personal grudges will snitch on them, and are avoiding all calls. Known for its pub hubs and fine party culture, the city scenario appears bleak until all this blows over. Or until someone really big manages to stymie the probe.

Netas suffer test stress

With many MPs testing positive for Covid-19 ahead of the Parliament session scheduled to begin Monday, legislators in Karnataka too seem a little nervous. All legislators, officers, journalists attending the legislative assembly session in Karnataka have to undergo mandatory Covid tests from September 18, which is giving our netas quite some stress. More than 50 legislators in Karnataka have tested positive for the virus so far, and many have chosen to keep it under wraps for various reasons, including social stigma. With mandatory testing, they are now worried that their absence from the session many give away their terrible secret...

Encroachments triggered floods

Plan to remove structures along rivers, plant trees to prevent erosion: Jarkiholi

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

WHAT is causing the floods in Karnataka? Just one word: Encroachment. So now, the government is looking at a long-term strategy to fight the floods.

After carefully studying the flooding and the consequent damage and losses, the government has identified one of the main causes — narrowing of the flow path of riverways due to encroachments. The water resources department has identified hundreds of encroachments along the water flow area, some of which are agricultural and others permanent structures.

In what could be seen as a rerun of last year, floods this year have devastated many districts. The flooding is not always due to excess rain or release of water from the dams though they are important factors. Last year, the loss due to the floods was ₹35,000 plus crore. And this year, the loss is put at over ₹8,000 crore.

File picture of a flooded area in Belagavi district

Speaking to *TNIE*, Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi said that they plan to clear the encroachments along the course of the rivers on either side, especially where stretches have been encroached upon. Once the encroachments are cleared, they plan to plant trees along the earmarked areas so that they can hold soil and prevent erosion.

Jarkiholi said there have been many encroachments in urban and semi-urban stretches, and consequently the course of the river flow has been clogged. Most encroachments date back to a couple of decades. The other issue of flooding is silt in the dams. Once the dams are desilted, it would greatly increase their storage capacity. Jarkiholi agreed that the holding capacity of some dams had come down and they need to be desilted immediately.

He pointed to the case of Tungabhadra where about 30 tmcft of water was redirected towards the Navile balancing reservoir because of this reason. He said going by the huge amounts of silt there, they may need about 1.32 lakh acres if the silt is deposited to a uniform height of 5 ft or about 66,000 acres if it is dumped to a height of 10 feet. Some experts have suggested dumping the silt in Ballari where many mining areas and shafts can take a lot of this. But that would mean transporting the silt from the Tungabhadra area to the mining zone – a distance of 53km — involving huge transportation cost.

He said that after the Covid challenges are over, he will seek a meeting with the CM and initiate action on these proposals.

Asked about the non-inclusion of experts like Sharad Jawali in the Water disputes legal team and not consulting legends like Fali Nariman, Jarkiholi said he has a plan about this which he cannot reveal at the moment.

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CM likely to meet Nirmala over GST disbursal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

YEDIYURAPPA's son and BJP state vice-president B Y Vijayendra, Deputy Chief Minister Govind Karjol, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai are said to be keen to accompany Yediyurappa on his visit to the national capital.

Given the state's financial situation, Yediyurappa is also hoping to meet Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** to discuss disbursal of funds. In his meeting with the PM, Yediyurappa hopes to raise concerns related to flood damage and the need for immediate assistance. With Union Home Minister Amit Shah back in hospital on Sunday, Yediyurappa's plans of meeting him will be on hold.

Yediyurappa is not keen on disrupting the cabinet for now, but has to at least make an effort to meet the party top brass and appease disgruntled legislators including the likes of Umesh Katti

— Sources

Be merciless in drug case, says Siddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

LEADER of Opposition in Karnataka Assembly Siddaramaiah on Sunday sought merciless action against those involved in drug peddling and substance abuse in the state.

Defending his partyman Zameer Ahmed Khan, Siddaramaiah appealed for an impartial probe. "Any investigation has to be impartial, it should be done without any political motive. Drugs are a menace to the whole society, this has been around for several years now and it has to be stopped," Siddaramaiah said.

What is the evidence of Zameer's involvement? Names should not be dragged in just to defame them

Siddaramaiah, Leader of Oppn

To a query on Zameer' name allegedly being linked to the case, Siddaramaiah said just because someone is seen with a person involved in a case, he cannot be labelled a criminal. "What is the evidence of Zameer's involvement in the drug racket? Someone's name should not be dragged in unnecessarily to defame them," he said.

Meanwhile, JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy on Sunday too defended his Sri Lanka visit.

Lashing out at Zameer Ahmed, a former JDS leader for dragging his name into the controversy, Kumaraswamy said there was nothing illegal about visiting casinos or Colombo but they had nothing to do with the ongoing investigation into the drug scandal. "I don't understand why a visit to Sri Lanka with my party legislators from six years ago is being pulled up now unnecessarily," he said.

Earlier, Zameer had said politicians cutting across party lines visit Sri Lanka. "I have never said I haven't been to Colombo. When I was in the JDS, I, along with Kumaraswamy and a host of our legislators had visited. That does not mean we did anything illegal," Zameer had said.

BJP using celebrities to cover up own failures, says Hariprasad

Belagavi: "Rhea Chakraborty and Kangana Ranaut are being used to cover up failures of PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. While names of Sandalwood actress Sanjjanaa and Ragini are being used to cover up shortcomings of the BJP government in Karnataka," alleged senior Congress leader MLC BK Hariprasad. Speaking to reporters in Belagavi on Sunday, he alleged, "All the names that have come up in the drug scandal are of women's. Does that mean men don't consume drugs? I will not reveal the names, but it is clear that this is BJP's stunt to hide their government's failures." Reacting to allegations regarding Congress MLA Zameer Ahmed's involvement in the drug nexus, he said the BJP's intention is to target minorities. ENS

EXPRESS READ

BBMP canteen owner ends life

Bengaluru: A 48-year-old BBMP canteen owner committed suicide by hanging himself in his house in Byalanahalli, on Sunday. Lingaraju lived with his family near Kengeri, and had been operating the canteen for 23 years. Venkatesh N, a family friend, said, "A month back, BBMP gave permission to open a mobile canteen on the same premises and Lingaraju's business slowed down. He had approached the Mayor and commissioner, but did not get any positive response. Upset over this, he ended his life," he added. BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad said that he will look into the matter. ENS

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE No.: SA / A / RS / ED / OT / 20-21 / 7 dated 12.09.2020
Name of the work : **Works contract for Rehabilitation of Tap Changer of electric locomotives available at Electric Loco Shed, Southern Railway, Salem Division, Erode.**
Tender Value : ₹ 1,19,95,986/-
Earnest Money Deposit : ₹ 2,10,000/-
Cost of Tender Document : ₹ 5,600/-
Completion Period : 9 Months
Closing Date & Time : 06.10.2020 at 11:00 hrs.
Complete details & tender document will be available at www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer,
Rolling Stock, Electric Loco Shed, Erode
Follow us on : twitter.com/@GMSRailway

PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas, Sri Shiva Kumar has intended to purchase the schedule property mentioned herein below and date of execution of sale deed is fixed on 01.10.2020. Therefore if anybody has any claims or objections over the schedule property may come forward and put forth their respective claims or objections on or before 30.09.2020. Otherwise we will go ahead with the registration of sale deed in respect of schedule property as if there are no claims or objections from anybody.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of vacant site bearing No. 96, situated at in the layout formed by the Binny House Building Co-operative Society Limited (Reg), formed in Sy. No. 16(P) of Malagala Village, Yashavanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North taluk, vide layout plan approved by the Bangalore development authority bearing No. **BEMAAPRA/ NAYOSA/PRL-53/06-07/3204/2012-13** dated 10.09.2012 and Bangalore Development Authority resolution dated 09.11.17, vide resolution No. 129/2017, vide approved modified layout plan issued by Bangalore Development Authority vide No. **NAYOSA/PRL-53/06-07/196/2018-19** dated 30.04.2018, measuring east to west **12.19** meters and north to South **6.1** meters and in all measuring about 74.359 square meters bounded on **East by :** Site No. 73, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No. 97, **South by :** Site No. 95
PRATHEEP K.C., High Court Advocate
892/A, 1st Floor, 9th cross, Modi Hospital Main Road, Bangalore-560 086.
Mob: 9902251062

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
No.4, LIC Jeevan Mangal Building, Residency Road, Bangalore 560 025
O. A. No. 1537/2019
BETWEEN: CANARA BANK, Koramangala Branch, 348, 100 Ft Road, St. John Medical College Road, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore 560 034. ...Applicant
AND: SRI. G. CHANDRA MOHAN REDDY Proprietor M/S. ADITYAH LADIES PG ...Defendants
Summons issued under Rule 23(viii) of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993 to the Defendant
Whereas the Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you for the recovery of sum of **Rs.33,83,316/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixteen Only) as on 05.09.2019** together with current and future interest and other reliefs.
You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons or on the **22.12.2020 at 10.30 A.M.** in person or by a pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this 8th Day of September, 2020.
BY ORDER OF TRIBUNAL Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore
To. SRI. G. CHANDRAMOHAN REDDY, Proprietor M/S. ADITYAH LADIES PG No.1B, 100ft Main Road, BTM 1st Stage, Bengaluru 560068. PAN No: ANAPG5050D.
Also at: SRI. G. CHANDRAMOHAN REDDY S/o Sri. G. Eswar Reddy, H. No.408, 2nd Floor, 8th Main, 8th Cross, MICO Layout, BTM 2nd Stage, Bengaluru 560 076. ...Defendant

IN THE COURT OF THE 24TH ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-6)
P & S C No.488/2019
BETWEEN: 1. MASTER JEEVAN GOWDA, S/o Sri. Venkatesh.T.M, aged about 15 years, 2. MASTER GAGAN GOWDA S/o Sri. Venkatesh.T.M, aged about 11 years, Since both are minors represented by their mother and natural guardian Smt. SHASHIKALA @ UMA.Y.L W/o Sri.Venkatesh.T.M, aged about 37 years, residing at Tuvvekere Village, Tuvvekere Post, Yadiyuru Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, ... PETITIONERS
AND
NIL ... RESPONDENT
DRAFT FOR PAPER ADVERTISEMENT
Whereas, the above named petitioners have filed the petition under Section 276 of Indian Succession Act, before this Hon'ble Court seeking for grant of probate which was bequeathed by their grandfather Late. Sri. Moodalagiraiah S/o Late Eeraiah @ Puttaiah by virtue of the will dated: 13.09.2017, in their favour in respect of the schedule properties. The said Late Sri. Moodalagiraiah S/o Late Eeraiah @ Puttaiah passed away on dated: 24.10.2018 and presently the matter is posted for taking steps and therefore if any persons having any interest in the subject matter, they can file their objections on or before dated: 10.12.2020 by attending the court personally or through their counsel. In default the matter will be heard exparte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court , this 10.09.2020.
SCHEDULE PROPERTIES
ITEM NO.1.
All the piece and parcel of the immovable House Property bearing Southern Half of Site No.273, formed in Sy.No.52 by the Government of Karnataka now belongs to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagar Palike Ward No.103 situated at 8th cross, 2nd Main Road, Panchasheelanagar, Malagalu Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, measuring East to West: 40-0 feet and North to South : 15-0 feet, totally measuring 600 sq feet and bounded on East by: Site No. 274; West by: Road North by: Remaining Northern portion of Site No.273; South by: Site No.271
ITEM NO.2
All the piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Sy. No.4/2A, Re Sy. No.4/2C, situated at Kantanahalli Village, Yediyuru hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, measuring an extent of 1 Acre 34 Guntas, revenue 2-02 Paisa and bounded on: East by: Road; West by: Sri. Sanjeevaiah's property; North by: Lake Yard South by: Sri. Sanjeevaiah's property
ITEM NO.3
All the piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Sy. No.169/8, Re Sy.No.169/19, situated at Tuvvekere Village, Yediyuru hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, measuring an extent of 0.04 Guntas, revenue 0-09 Paisa and bounded on: East by: Government Road; West by: Sri. T.G.Thimmegowda's property; North by: Sri. Puttaiah and Sri. Moodlaiah's property South by: Sri. Takkadi Thimmappa's property
By Order of the Court
Assistant Registrar City Civil Court Bangalore
Advocate for Petitioners
Address for Service:
M/S C.E.A. LAW CHAMBERS
DARSHAN.S.R,
No.30, Ground Floor, Kanaka Mandir, 5th Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-560009.

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Thalavaipatty Post, Salem - 636 302. Telephone : 9994443956. E-mail : aavinslmmkg@gmail.com
TENDER NOTICE
Salem Milk Union invites sealed tenders for **29** Vehicles for distribution of milk and collection of tubs for **3** years under two Cover System. The tender form can be obtained from the union by remitting **Rs.200/-** by DD upto **3.00 pm** on **13.10.2020** from the date of tender advertisement and the tender form can also be down loaded from **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** free of cost. The filled form should be submitted on or before **14.10.2020** by **2.00 p.m.** along with EMD. The tender will be opened on **14.10.2020** by **2.30 pm.**
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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PUDUCHERRY REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS IN PUDUCHERRY REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
The Government of Puducherry as mandated under section 20 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (No. 16 of 2016) hereby invites applications for appointment of one Chairperson and one Member in Puducherry Real Estate Regulatory Authority. Complete information on Qualification, eligibility criteria, application format and other details may be obtained from the website of Town and Country Planning Department (https://tcpd.py.gov.in). Application in the prescribed format alongwith supporting documents should reach the office of Town and Country Planning Department, Puducherry on or before **9th October 2020 at 5.45. PM.**
* Filling up of the post of Member is subject to the outcome of the W.P.No. 8430 of 2020.
Nodal officer-Cum-Chief Town Planner
Town and Country Planning Department,
No.189/DIP/AD(Press)/2020-21 Jawahar Nagar, Boomianpet, Puducherry-605005.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(Construction Organisation)
E-TENDER
Notice No. 05-CECNMS-20-21-E-35564 dated 28.08.2020
Notice No. 06-CECNMS-20-21-E-36114 dated 26.08.2020
Notice No. 07-CECNMS-20-21-E-36123 dated 26.08.2020
Notice No. 08-CECNMS-20-21-E-36106 dated 26.08.2020
Notice No. 09-CECNMS-20-21-E-16174 dated 28.08.2020
Notice No. 10-CECNMS-20-21-E-24915 dated 26.08.2020
NAME OF THE WORK
AJJ-RU Section: Proposed construction of ROAD OVER BRIDGE at Km. 79/0 consisting of 1 x 46m (Sk) between Arakkonam and Tiruttani Stations. (DEPOSIT WORK)
Final Location survey for the Proposed Doubling of track between KARUR-DINDIGUL Section (75 Km)
Final Location survey for the Proposed Doubling of track between SALEM-KARUR Section (85 Km)
Final Location survey for the Proposed Doubling of track between ERODE-KARUR Section (65 Km)
Gauge conversion between Madurai and Bodinayakanur - Construction of Retaining wall, Protective works at the Major Bridge approaches and at the locations of High bank, Construction of LUS in lieu of LC No.36 and other Miscellaneous works between Usilampatti and Bodinayakanur stations and Construction of Track Machine rest house at Usilampatti and SSE signal office at Madurai (Two Packet System)
Final Location Survey for Doubling of track between KATPADI and VILLUPURAM (160.1 Km)

Approximate Cash Value (₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	Period of Completion in Months	Closing Date at 15.30 hrs
5,48,62,183.96	4,24,300	NINE	21.09.2020
52,65,368.45	1,05,300	FOUR	18.09.2020
66,59,423.20	1,33,200	FOUR	18.09.2020
52,96,116.85	1,05,900	THREE	18.09.2020
12,59,93,910.28	7,80,000	FIVE	21.09.2020
2,09,67,983.00	2,54,800	NINE	18.09.2020

Complete details & tender document will be available at www.ireps.gov.in
Chief Engineer (Construction)
Egmore, Chennai - 600 008
Follow us on : twitter.com/@GMSRailway

Government of Karnataka
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Finance Department,
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru
No.: FD 01 BMB 2020 Date:10.09.2020
KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)
1. Aggregate Amount : Rs. 2000 Crore (Rs.1000 Crore - 10 Year Tenure and Rs.1000 Crore - 13 Year Tenure)
2. Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort)
3. Date of auction : September 15, 2020
Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bengaluru. Non-competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non-competitive bidding facility is available on the website www.rbi.org.in
DIPR/DDU/22/MCA/20-21

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY HEADQUARTERS HOSPITAL
PERAMBUR, CHENNAI - 600 023
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Medical Director, Southern Railway Headquarters Hospital, Perambur, Chennai-600 023 invites application in sealed cover for empanelment for Nuclear Medicine Investigations / Procedures & Clinical Laboratory Investigations from institutions who are interested to participate on or before **30.09.2020 at 15:00 hours** to the Office of the Medical Director, Southern Railway Headquarters Hospital, Perambur, Chennai-600 023.

1	Tender Notice No.	1. No. HQ / MD.34 / R / P / NMS dated 02.09.2020 2.No. HQ / MD.34 / R / P / Lab dated 02.09.2020
2	Name of the E.O.I	1. Nuclear Medicine Investigations / Procedures 2.Clinical Laboratory Investigations
3	Terms & Conditions	To be downloaded from the below mentioned website
4	Period of Empanelment	Two years from the date of entering into agreement
5	Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Upto 15:00 hours on 30.09.2020
6	Date & Time for Opening of Tender	30.09.2020 at 15:30 hours
7	Website Address	www.sr.indianrailway.gov.in

Medical Director
Railway Hospital, Perambur
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CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LAKSHMI**, W/o. Sathisha, No. 97, Mylanahalli, Haralahalli, Krishnarajapet, Mandya - 571 426, have changed my daughter's name from **RAKSHITHA M.S.** to **CHAITHRA SHREE M.S.** Vide affidavit dated 12.09.2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MADHUMANTI VARUN BANERJEE**, Aged about 26 years, W/o. Varun Rajgopal, resident of No. 111, 5th Block, C Wing, Skyline Apartments, Chandra Layout, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore - 560 072, have changed my name from **MADHUMANTI BANERJEE** to **MADHUMANTI VARUN BANERJEE.** Vide affidavit dated 12.09.2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Shashikala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SERVICE NO. 13622119F** Hav Savaratkar Dattatraya Narayan aged about 44 years, Resident at Para Records J.C.Nagar (Mekri Circle) Bangalore-560006, have changed my Minor Daughter's name from **(OLD NAME) SAVARATKAR SANIKA DATTATRAYA** to **(NEW NAME) SAVARATKAR SANIKA DATTATRAY** vide affidavit Dated 10/09/2020 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SUNU JOSE RAJESH**, previously called **SUNUMOL**, aged about 43 years, W/o Mr. Jose Rajesh, residing at #G-2, 32/33, Jyeshtha Apartment, 1st Main Road, Venkatagowda Layout, Kempapura, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560024, Karnataka State. Hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **'SUNUMOL' to "SUNU JOSE RAJESH"** vide Affidavit dated 09.09.2020, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Public Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU MONDAY 14.09.2020

TRACKING COVID-19

Due to the sharp spike in Covid-19 cases and patients requiring ventilator support, Dakshina Kannada will add 55-60 ventilator beds to the existing 150-odd beds available in the district.

8,402 NEW RECOVERIES

3,52,958 TOTAL RECOVERED

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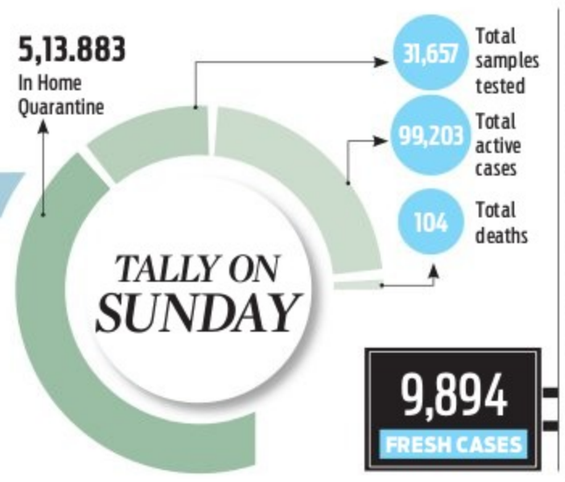
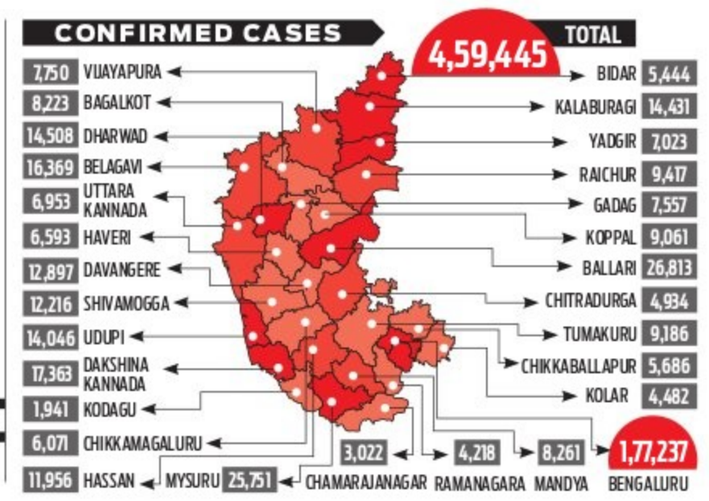
104 Arogya Sahayavani will function too





A health worker arrives for Covid testing duty in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHRIRAM BN

COVID HITS ELDERLY IN MYSURU, EXCLUSIVE HOSPITAL SET UP

Basappa Memorial Hospital to be converted into geriatric care unit

KARTHIK K K @Mysuru

COVID-19 has affected the elderly population the most in the district and in an alarming trend, 24 senior citizens have succumbed to the virus in the last three days. Also, over 7,000 people above the age of 50 have tested positive till now.

The susceptibility of geriatric population has pushed the authorities to set up specialist wards and adapt critical care models to bring down Covid deaths in Mysuru, which has taken the top slot in Covid mortalities in the state.

The district administration is converting the existing Basappa Memorial Hospital (BMH) on Hunsur Road into an exclusive Covid hospital for senior citizens. Already, the administration had taken the consent of the BM Hospital management to convert it into a 100-bedded Covid hospital as cases were spiking.

"It was suggested during the district Covid task force meeting that a geriatric hospital be set up. I visited BM Hospital to take stock of the situation, and there was an issue with the underground drainage and water supply, which has been addressed now. Other facilities in the hospital will be upgraded soon after the deputy commissioner gives the approval," said Dr Jayanath, Health Officer, Mysuru City Corporation.

When MLA S A Ramadas learnt that majority of Covid deaths in the district were of the elderly, he suggested converting BMH into a geriatric hospital. "The decision was taken as the demand for oxygen beds had surged with the spike in cases and also, senior citizens were struggling to get timely treatment," he said.

> The decision was taken as the demand for oxygen beds had surged with the spike in cases and also, senior citizens were struggling to get timely treatment
>
> SA Ramadas, BJP MLA

Tumakuru kids fight back

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Tumakuru

TUMAKURU district of late has seen arise in the number of Covid-19 patients being shifted to ICUs due to complications and has also reported higher mortalities. Fortunately, however, no children below the age of five have so far succumbed to the virus in the district, which has seen 200 deaths, said district health officials on Sunday.

Except for the death of a 24-year-old woman, who had pneumonia and related complications, the youth too have fought back the virus.

Of the 9,215 cases till Sunday, only 160 children below the age of five have been infected, and all of them have recovered.

DHO Dr M B Nagendrappa said, "None of the positive children developed complications and that might have helped them recover."

State in sniffing distance of 10K cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA reported its highest daily spike yet with 9,894 Covid cases on Sunday, taking its tally to 4,59,445 cases.

Munish Moudgil, in charge of the Covid War Room, said, "It is a positive sign that Covid infection peaks and then reduces. The impression that the infection isn't coming down in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike area is incorrect. Overall, the numbers haven't reduced but in some areas the caseload is down, while in others it has gone up, maintaining similar numbers. There is no room for complacency. Each citizen must act sensibly and use masks, maintain social distance, hand and face hygiene."

While face masks are in place, social distancing norms in Bengaluru's KR Market, which was shut for months, go for a toss | SHRIRAM BN

The five districts with high caseload include Bengaluru with 3,479 cases, Mysuru (665), Ballari (661), Hassan (426) and Dakshina Kannada (404).

The latest war room report shows 2,35,112 cases have domestic travel history, and 1,43,353 patients have no known source of contact or travel history.

The State saw 104 deaths, which took the toll to 7,265 cases — four patients were brought dead to hospital. Diabetes, hypertension, chronic kidney disease, ischemic heart disease continue to remain the predominant comorbidities in those succumbing to Covid, with 807 patients currently battling for life in the ICU.

COVID WATCH

BALLARI SPENDS ₹16.5 CR ON COVID CARE

Ballari: The Ballari district administration has spent over Rs 16.5 crore in treating Covid-19 patients till now, the most spent by a district in the Kalyana-Karnataka region. Moreover, the district got appreciation from CM B S Yediyurappa for its efforts in combatting the virus. As on Sunday, the district had reported over 26,000 Covid cases, with 4,400 active and 338 deaths. The majority of patients have been treated in the district itself. "In the region, Ballari has reported the highest number of cases, but at the same time, we are taking special care as per government guidelines," said a senior health official.

— Kiran Balannavar

Proned patients not scanned in K'taka

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE study's lead investigator, Dr Colin Franz, a physician-scientist at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab and assistant professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation and neurology at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine, and his colleagues have been conducting therapeutic nerve stimulation to regenerate nerves.

But they found that the damaged nerves are less likely to regrow in patients with pre-existing conditions. "This could mean permanent difficulties with walking or critical hand functions like writing, using a computer or mobile," Dr Franz says.

Up to 15 per cent of most severely ill Covid-19 patients surveyed had permanent nerve damage. The researchers estimate that worldwide, thousands may be impacted by this.

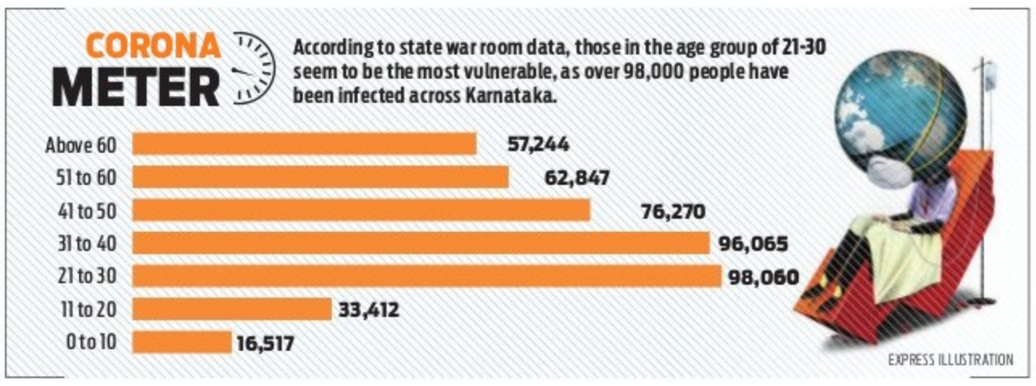
However, such studies have so far not been conducted in India. In Karnataka, about 800 severely sick Covid patients have been subjected to proning, of which about 500 have recovered, but not scanned for nerve damage.

Dr K Sudheesh, anaesthetist at the Bangalore Medical College Research Institute, who is treating critical Covid patients at Victoria Hospital, said, "Patients do complain about neck and shoulder pains post prone ventilation. But so far, we haven't seen any worse side effects. We do not even force the patients, and we allow only those who can stay in the position for long. We even give them lateral position, as it will relieve the stress on their joints."

However, Dr Franz points out that the injuries are missed because critically ill patients are expected to wake up with some generalised, symmetric weakness because they have been bedridden.

It was the pattern of weakness in Covid-19 patients that caught the researchers' attention during rehabilitation since quite often, an important joint such as the wrist, ankle or shoulder, would be completely paralysed on one side of the body.

Dr Anoop Amarnath, head of the Scientific Board and Chairman, Geriatric Medicine, Manipal Hospital, and member of the state Critical Care Support Team (CCST), says, "There are protocols to be followed for prone ventilation. Prone ventilation is performed on patients in Dakshina Kannada district and in some centres of Bengaluru too. Usually, patients are sedated, so they won't complain of pain. Post viral myalgia (post viral infections), they will have side-effects like body ache, but it might not be due to proning. Any centre following proning, should follow specialised guidelines for safety of patients."


CORONA METER
According to state war room data, those in the age group of 21-30 seem to be the most vulnerable, as over 98,000 people have been infected across Karnataka.
Above 60 57,244
51 to 60 62,847
41 to 50 76,270
31 to 40 96,065
21 to 30 98,060
11 to 20 33,412
0 to 10 16,517
EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Independent legal experts needed for CCB: B'luru top cop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BOMMAI said, "The government will give instructions to police in border districts for stricter measures against drugs being trafficked from across inter-state borders."

Noting that the state has the powers to frame rules for the implementation of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS), which is a Central Act, he said they will discuss with legal experts on implementing the changes to the rules.

"I have directed the CCB that any information from anywhere, whether it is media or any statement by individuals or organisations, should be taken seriously and investigated for necessary further action," he added.

Speaking to *The New Indian Express*, Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Kamal Pant felt that the CCB should be provided with independent legal experts to handle serious and sensitive cases.

The wing also needs to be reorganised and its technical capability strengthened, he added.

Another police officer pointed out that since the CCB handles numerous cases of crimes, it will need more staff. Also personnel should be deployed at the borders to control illegal activities, especially drug trade, smuggling and human trafficking.

> The government will give instructions to police in border districts for stricter measures against drugs being trafficked from across inter-state borders
>
> Basavaraj Bommai, Home Minister

Faisal still elusive, kin say will get him to surrender

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WHILE the Central Crime Branch (CCB) police have made several arrests in the Sandalwood drug racket case, Sheikh Faisal, who is said to be a major drug dealer, has still managed to remain elusive.

Faisal is said to be very close to an MLA and is absconding after the police started the probe in the drugs case. Sources said that they have launched a massive manhunt to nab him. "We have spoken to his family members and gathered some information about him. However, they are requesting us not to search for him and they will convince him to surrender if we promise them that we won't treat him badly. We have made it clear that he cannot escape and will have to face legal action," the sources said.

The police said that Faisal, who was a mechanic at Chamarajpet about 15 years ago, had become a major drug dealer. "He has close links with several politicians, actors and also cricketers. He used to organise parties which were attended by celebrities and where drugs flowed freely. He is the one who took a few well-known actors from Karnataka to a casino in Colombo in Sri Lanka," the police said.

Further, activist Prashanth Sambargi, who appeared before the CCB police on Saturday, told them that many big names will come out if Faisal is arrested. Sambargi also alleged that Faisal was very close to Chamarajpet MLA B Z Zameer Ahmed Khan, police sources said.

Cops meet SPPs

On Sunday, senior police officers held a special meeting with the Special Public Prosecutors (SPP) appointed in the case.

The government has appointed Veeranna G Tigadi and S Ravindra as SPPs of the case. Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Sandeep Patil and other senior officers met the prosecutors and discussed the progress in the investigation and the evidence they have collected so far.

Sandalwood actress Sanjjanaa Galrani being taken to the CCB office after her arrest in Bengaluru last week | SHRIRA BN

Actresses plead for judicial custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

ACTORS Ragini Dwivedi and Sanjjanaa Galrani on Sunday pleaded with police officers to hand them over to judicial custody instead of appealing before the court for their further police custody. The actresses told the officers that they are tired of medical tests and repeated interrogations under police custody and want out, police sources said.

Ragini's police custody ends on Monday. Sources at the Central Crime Branch (CCB) said that with judicial custody, the duo hopes to have a better chance of getting bail.

On Sunday, the CCB officials grilled a political leader in Hubballi as he was said to be in contact with Sanjanaa over the last few years. Based on the information given by her, the team interrogated the leader at his house. Besides, the police have also found out that the actress and the political leader were in regular contact, as revealed by her phone call records. She had also saved his photos in her gadgets, the sources said.

A senior police officer said that the actresses were again interrogated on Sunday by the Banasawadi police, as Ravishankar and Viren Khanna, who are allegedly involved in the drug case, were picked up recently.

At the CCB, woman police inspector Anjumala Naik and Puneeth interrogated the actors, while at Banasawadi, inspector Mohammed Siraj and Sridhar Poojar questioned their links with the male accused and whether the actors helped them in the crime. The police also gathered information about drug-infused parties being held in their jurisdiction and surrounding areas and whether the actors and Khanna organised such parties. The police also recovered some photos of cricket players and celebrities accompanying Khanna and Sanjana at those parties, the sources said.

The Salem police on Sunday arrested two people in connection with a Rs 3,500 crore cheating case. Sources said that the man accused in this case runs three finance companies in Kerala and Tamil Nadu along with 10 of his friends.

Parents anxiously wait for their wards appearing for the NEET exam in Kochi on Sunday | A SANESH

Social distancing goes for a toss during NEET

Aspirants, parents crowd outside exam centres in Kerala

PARVATHI BENU
@Kochi/T'Puram

SOCIAL distancing and Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) went for a toss at several centres in the state, especially in Kochi, where the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for MBBS and BDS courses was held on Sunday.

Officials said parents and others accompanying examinees maintained social distancing measures to an extend at exam centres in Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode.

Of the 1,27,592 students enrolled for NEET, 1,08,787 candidates appeared for the exam in 324 centres across the state.

In Kerala, the examination was held in centres across Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kollam, Kottayam, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur districts.

In the exam centres in Kochi, students and parents were seen crowding outside the exam centres, ignoring Covid protocol, which required the people to maintain social distancing, among other things.

"Parents must not crowd in front of the school building," a police officer screamed at the top of her voice. "Just pray for your children. They are safe in the school building. Come back at 5pm," she told the parents of NEET examinees in front of Toc H Public School, Kochi.

"I was a bit scared. My son has been preparing for this for years. I was hoping that no postponement happens. After all, his life mustn't have a hindrance," said a parent, echoing a sentence by a Supreme Court judge who dismissed a plea that sought the exam's postponement.

All was well inside the exam centre. Students stood in marked squares, their temperatures checked upon entrance and given hand sanitisers. But sadly, this wasn't the case outside the centre. Queues that extended over a kilometre had students standing quite close to each other, waiting for their turn to enter the hall.

When pointed out that, a police officer said: "The school management should have thought about it. You can't blame it on us."

Test held in TN with a host of precautions

Chennai: Despite strong opposition from various political parties and the public at large, the National Testing Agency held the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) on Sunday and about 1.1 lakh candidates took the exam held at 238 centres in the State.

Odisha records more than 88% turnout

Bhubaneswar: More than 88 per cent medical aspirants from Odisha appeared the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) 2020 on Sunday, amid special measures in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. The test was conducted at 83 centresin the State. ENS

Children not productive during the day, say parents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"MANY children are found sleeping the entire day without doing any productive work. In March and April, we hardly got any cases. However from May, the cases started to increase. Earlier, I would get five-seven cases per week. But now it's 15. Most of the cases are of children in the age group of 15-18. With schools or colleges shut, they play the entire night," Dr Sharma said.

The parents complain that their children are playing excessively and are not productive in daily activities. They say there is a verbal and non-verbal expression of anger when they ask the children not to play.

However, children think that night play enhances their skills development. "Generally night play happens with the international players and the children think playing with them helps in skill development. For them, the games help them fulfil psychological needs. As during lockdown, many are even now unable to meet their pals. So through gaming, they talk and fulfil communication. Secondly, the need for achievement is fulfilled – while they do not get appreciated at home or in schools, they, however, get appreciation from the team members in the game. Lastly, with communication and appreciation, their self-esteem increases, which in turn pushes them more into the virtual world. But if this is stopped, it leads to anger manifestation," said Dr Sharma.

On the treatment, Dr Sharma said, "We try to enhance their motivation to improve skills and focus on sleep, help them take decisions and enhance family communication and support."

Forest dept, locals spar over green patches around Bannerghatta

MEERA BHARDWAJ @Bengaluru

RECENTLY, a joint initiative by an NGO and reserve police force to green an empty patch of land in Shivanahalli village on the outskirts of Bengaluru resulted in people destroying all greening efforts. They claimed that this patch of land was outside the deemed forest area. Forest officials said fragmented green patches of land surrounding Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) have been a source of conflict as land prices are very steep due to its proximity to Bengaluru.

On September 3, the Bannerghatta Nature Conservation Trust (BNCT) had planted 250 saplings on 0.6 acres on Survey No 69 in Ragihalli Panchayat in Shivanahalli village, along with Karnataka State Reserve Police Force personnel. However, the same night, locals uprooted all the saplings.

No farming activities have taken place on this patch for the past 8-10 years and it was left fallow as it was an undulating forest-like land, said a local resident. "There was a long-term understanding between the BNCT and the farmers and so the land was left untouched. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with village youths losing jobs in Bengaluru and returning home, they wanted to claim these patches."

With a complaint lodged with the Anekal Range office, forest officials said the 'conflict patch' in Survey No 69 did not fall within the deemed forest area. S R Krishna, Anekal Range Forest Officer (RFO) said, "We found about 0.6 acres of the land was not within the deemed forest. It is gomala land."

Survey No 69 has a 'deemed forest' comprising about 380 acres. However, this deemed forest (declared in 2014) is yet to be notified. An affidavit on this issue was filed in the Supreme Court in 2018. There are many such empty patches in this survey number where no farming activities have taken place for decades.

The RFO adds, "But such isolated patches have to be confirmed on ground with concrete or stone pillars if they fall within a deemed forest or not."

With network being very poor in these lands, forest officials find it difficult to do surveys. Earlier, joint surveys of such patches were done with GPS coordinates. Now, a joint survey with the revenue department has to be done by marking the 'boundaries on ground' for deemed forests.

Remote working has become the new normal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE fact that companies are comfortable with the idea of remote working in the light of Covid-19 is another factor, Bhaskar Kalale pointed out.

"Earlier, many were skeptical of remote working. But now, since it has become familiar territory, many are confident of running operations with one office in Bengaluru and another in Mysuru. Also, air and road connectivity has improved," he said.

Though there are various schemes and sops for companies going to tier-2 cities, a majority of those coming to Mysuru are not taking the government's help, he claimed.

Cop suspended in robbery case

BENGALURU: SJ Park Police Inspector Yogesh, who was allegedly involved in a kidnapping and extortion case in which Rs 26.5 lakh was robbed by a police sub-inspector and his associates recently, is absconding and has been suspended.

SJ Park SI Jeevan Kumar and others were arrested by the City Market police after they allegedly kidnapped and robbed the car driver of an agricultural products dealer from Gubbi of Tumakuru district on August 19. "The SI had told Yogesh that he had information about Rs 2 crore hawala money being brought to the city and he would carry out a raid. The SI had convinced Yogesh that no complaint will be filed as it was hawala money. Yogesh gave his consent and allegedly took Rs 8 lakh as his share and went missing soon after others were arrested," a police officer said. ENS

बिहार सरकार

बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लि.

(बिहार सरकार का एक प्रतिष्ठान)

कार्य प्रमंडल, पटना–1

ISO:9001:2008
Reg.no.:RQ91/8550

कार्यालय : 7 सरदार पटेल मार्ग, पटना– 800015 दूरभाष : Phone :+91-612-2217596

वेबसाईट Web : http://brpnnl.bihar.gov.in

ई-मेल E-mail : spe-patna-1@brpnn.co.in

Doc.No:-BRPNN/PT1/C001/ 2081

(NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER on EPC Mode)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

(Only through e-tendering system on website (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd (BRPNNL), A Government of Bihar undertaking, invites Proposals in Two Bid System (Technical and Financial) from eligible Firms/ Contractors/ Agencies or Companies registered in appropriate category with RCD, Govt. of Bihar/ BRPNNL /MES/ CPWD/Railways or Central Government/any State Government or any PSU for the following work on **EPC Mode.** Those not registered with BRPNNL will have to get registered with BRPNNL after issue of LOA and before executing the agreement.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of Bid Document (Rs.) (Non Refundable)	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs)	Bid Processing Fee (Online Payment) (Non Refundable)	Time of Completion of work
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction/ Re -development of (1) Main Gate (2) Boundary Wall (3) Main Approach Road including Median (with Plantation) (4) Branch Road (5) Main Drain (6) Branch Drain (7) Guard Room and Toilet Block with Plumbing & Sanitary fittings and Electrical works (8) Campus Development with sand filling and paver block at Agricultural Production Marketing Board (dissolved), Mushllahpur, Patna.	2166.71	10,000/-	31.70	17,700/-	24 Months

SCHEDULE :

Sl. No.	Activity	Duration
1.	Download date of RFQ- cum-RFP documents	From 28.09.2020 (10:00 Hrs.) to 17.10.2020 (15:00 Hrs.) (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
2.	Pre-bid Meeting	09.10.2020 at 13.00 Hrs. (Meeting Hall of BRPNNL 7, Sardar Patel Marg, Patna – 800015)
3.	Last Date/Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	28.10.2020 upto 15.00 Hrs. (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
4.	Last Date of Submission of Bank Draft, bid security and Hard copies of document in original.	31.10.2020 upto 15: 00 Hrs. at BRPNNL Office.
5.	Date & time for opening of Technical Bid	31.10.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
6.	Date, time and place of opening of Financial Bid	To be informed later to technically qualified bidder. (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

1. **Earnest Money** The Earnest money as indicated in the table above shall be accompanied with bid in the shape of 8th issue of 6 years NSC/KVP/TD issued within the state or as per Bihar Financial Rules & Rule 161 of revised PWD code and duly pledged in favour of **"Senior Project Engineer, Works Division Patna-1, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd."** 2. The Earnest Money shall also be acceptable in the form of Demand Draft/Fixed Deposit Receipt or unconditional Bank Guarantee (validity 45 days after bid validity period) of any Scheduled Bank which has Branch in Bihar and duly issued in favour of **"Senior Project Engineer, Works Division Patna-1, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd."**
Earnest money and the Cost of Bid Documents shall be submitted in original in the office of the Senior Project Engineer, Works Division Patna-1, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. / Dy. Chief Engineer, Work circle-01, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. Patna, 7- Sardar Patel Marg, Patna up to 31/10/2020 (3:00pm). Otherwise bid will not be considered as responsive. **3. Qualifying Criteria:-** Qualifying Requirements, Specification etc. will be as per rules & conditions, which along with detailed NIT can be seen on website **www.eproc.bihar.gov.in/ www.brpnnl.bihar.gov.in.** 4. Bid Processing Fees is mandatory to be paid through on line mode i.e. internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card) Net Banking , NEFT/RTGS. 5. A 3D Technical Presentation including Walk Through with all Architectural, Dimensional, Technical Specification etc. will be presented by bidders regarding Bazar krishi Samiti, **Mushalahpur, Patna** proposed to justify/clarify their technical bid proposal. The date will be intimated later. 6. **Validity of Bid** 120 days from last date of submission of Tender. **7.** Bidder must have the experience of relevant similar nature work. **8.** Estimated cost may increase / decrease. **9.** The Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason there of. **10.** As per Bid Document and Departmental letter no. 3987 (s), dated 28.04.2012, tenderers will have to declare by affidavit that they have not been declared defaulter or blacklisted by any State Government/Central Government/Public Undertaking. If such affidavit is subsequently found to be false, their tender shall not be considered and further legal action shall be initiated. **11** Contractor will have to deposit additional performance guarantee for seriously unbalanced rate quoted by him at the time of agreement as per RCD, GoB Memo . No.-448(s) dt. 16.01.2020. **12.** Bids from joint ventures are allowed as per the eligibility criteria and other instructions mentioned in Bid Document. **13.** Corrigendum/ Addendum if any will be uploaded on the web site www.eproc.bihar.gov.in as well as www.brpnnl.bihar.gov.in. **14.** No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids in advance to avoid last minute technical snag. 15. For clarification and further enquiry, if any, regarding e–tendering process and registration, the bidder may contact e – procurement Helpdesk, 1st Floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road No. 25, S.K. Nagar, Patna - 800001 (Tel 0612- 2523006, 7542028164)
Visit our website; www.brpnnl.bihar.gov.in.
Name of Contact Person :-
1. Sri. Khurshid Karim, S.P.E.- Mob. No.- 8544402463
2. Sri. Alok Ranjan, C.A., Mob No-9835129500

Senior Project Engineer,
B.R.P.N.N.Ltd, Works Division, Patna-1

PR No. 6692(Ni.Ni.) 2020-21

नोवल कोरोना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु 24X7 Toll Free No.: 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

किसी भी तरह आपदा की जानकारी अथवा सुझाव हेतु आपदा प्रबंधन के हेल्पलाइन नं. 1070 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

Govt. of Bihar

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER
BIHAR RAJYA PUL NIRMAN NIGAM LTD.
WORKS DIVISION, NALANDA (BIHARSHARIF).

(NOTICE INVITING TENDER on EPC Mode)

(Only through e-tendering system on website (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

Doc No. BRPNNL/NAL/806

Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. (BRPNNL), a Government of Bihar undertaking, invites Proposals in Two Bid System (Technical and Financial) from eligible Firms/Contractors/Agencies or Companies registered in appropriate category with RCD, Govt. of Bihar/BRPNNL/MES/CPWD/ Railways or Central Government/any State Government or any PSU for the following work.Those not registered with BRPNNL will have to get registered with BRPNNL in the event of award of contract of them.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Cr.)	Cost of Bid Document (Rs.) (Non Refundable)	Earnest Money (Rs. in Cr.)	Bid Processing Fee (Online Payment) (Non Refundable)	Time of Completion of work	Maintenance after defect liability period
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7
1	Construction, Rehabilitation and upgrading to 2-lane with paved shoulder configuration and strengthening of existing road Salepur-Narsanda-Telmar-Karouta under the district of Nalanda. *(Total Length-19.767Km)*	177.00	10,000/-	1.87	17,700/-	24 Months	05 Years

1. **Earnest Money**The Earnest money as indicated in the table above shall be accompanied with bid in the shape of 8th issue of 6 years NSC/KVP/TD issued within the state or as per Bihar Financial Rules & Rule 161 of revised PWD code and duly pledged in favour of **"Senior Project Engineer, Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif), Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd.**
The Earnest Money shall also be acceptable in the form of Demand Draft/Fixed Deposit Receipt or unconditional Bank Guarantee (validity 45 days after bid validity period) of any Nationalised / Scheduled Bank which has Branch in Bihar and duly issued in favour of **"Senior Project Engineer, Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif), Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd."**
Earnest money and the Cost of Bid Documents shall be submitted in original in the office of the Senior Project Engineer, Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif), Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. / Dy. Chief Engineer, Work Circle-2, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd., Patna, 7Sardar Patel Marg, Patna up to **31.10.2020 (15:00 hours)**. Otherwise bid will not be considered as responsive.
2. **Qualifying Criteria:** Qualifying Requirements, Specification etc. will be as per rules & conditions, which along with detailed NIT can be seen on website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in / www.brpnn.bih.nic.in.
3. **Sale of Bid Documents**
(A) Bid document will be available on website www.eproc.bihar.gov.infrom **15.10.2020 (10.00 hours)** to **30.10.2020 (15:00 hours)**. The cost of bid document will be in the form of non refundable Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque payable to **"Senior Project Engineer, Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif), Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd."** and payable at **Biharsharif** and will be submitted in original to the office of the Senior Project Engineer, Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif), Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd./ Deputy Chief Engineer, Work Circle-2, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd., 7 Sardar Patel Marg, Patna up to **31.10.2020 (15:00 hours).** Otherwise bid will not be considered as responsive.
(B) Bid Processing Fees is mandatory to be paid through on line mode i.e. internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card) Net Banking, NEFT/RTGS.
4. **Pre Bid Meeting**
A pre-bid meeting will be held on **16.10.2020 at 15:00 hours** in the Conference Hall of BRPNNL, 7 Sardar Patel Marg, Patna–800015. The minutes of pre-bid meeting shall be intimated through website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
5. **Last Date of Submission of Tender**
Last date of submission of tender will be on **31.10.2020 upto 15:00 hours** through website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. All documents / Demand Draft / Earnest Money etc. should be scanned and uploaded with the proposal.
6. **Technical Bid Opening**
(a) Technical Bid will be opened on **31.10.2020 at 15:30 hours** on website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. The Bidders or their authorized representatives may remain present (if they wish so) at the time of opening of Technical Bid in the office of Deputy Chief Engineer, Work Circle-2, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd., 7 Sardar Patel Marg, Patna-800015
7. **Validity of Bid**
120 days from last date of submission of Tender.
8. **Date of Opening of Financial Bid:**
Date of opening of financial bid will be intimated later through website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
9. Bidder must have the Experience of Road work including minor & major bridge works as per Bid Document.
10. Contractor will have to abide by the rules of 5 years maintenance policy after defect liability period.
11. Estimated cost may increase / decrease.
12. **The Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.**
13. As per Bid Document and Departmental letter no. 3987 (s), dated 28.04.2012, tenderers will have to declare by affidavit that they have not been declared defaulter or blacklisted by any State Government/Central Government/Public Undertaking. If such affidavit is subsequently found to be false, their tender shall not be considered and further legal action shall be initiated. Bidder must have submitted the Affidavit as above from the date of publishing NIT.
14. Contractor will have to deposit additional performance guarantee for seriously unbalanced rate quoted by him at the time of agreement as per RCD letter No.-447 (S) dated-16.01.2020.
15. Corrigendum/ Addendum if any will be uploaded on the web site www.eproc.bihar.govt.in as well as www.brpnn.bih.nic.in.
16. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.
17. For clarification and further enquiry, if any, regarding e–tendering process and registration, the bidder may contact e – procurement Helpdesk, 1st Floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road No. 25, S.K. Nagar, Patna - 800001 (Tel 0612- 2523006, 7542028164)
Visit our website; www.brpnn.bih.nic.in
Contact person for enquiry:-+91-9835408719, +91-9973177160

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए
state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर संम्पर्क करें

Senior Project Engineer
Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd.
Works Division, Nalanda (Biharsharif)

PR-06696 (Ni Ni) 2020-21

नोवल कोरोना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु 24X7 Toll Free No.: 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

स्वास्थ सामग्री – संबंधी किसी तरह की जानकारी अथवा सुझाव हेतु दूरभाष संख्या 0612–2217636 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Fraser Town Branch No. 86/3, Coles Road, Fraser Town Bangalore-560 005.
Phone No.080-25554842, 9483530407, E-mail: cb0407@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

ANNEXURE - 13
(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive/ physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Canara Bank, Fraser Town Branch, Bangalore,** will be sold on **"As is Where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is "** on **19.10.2020** , for recovery of **Rs.3,26,83,313.66** (Rupees Three crore Twenty Six lakhs eighty Three thousand Three hundred thirteen and sixty six paise only) with further interest and other incidental expenses/costs from **01.09.2020,** due to the **Canara Bank, Fraser Town Branch, Bangalore,** from **. M/s Vivek Enterprises,** No. 152, Wheeler Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore 560005. **2. Shri R K Dutta, Managing Partner,** M/s Vivek Enterprises, 152, Wheeler Road, Fraser Town, Bangalore – 560005. **3. Smt Vijaya Dutta, Partner, M/s Vivek Enterprises,** No. 7, Sundar Murthy Road, Fraser Town, Bangalore – 560005. **4. Bindesh Dutt, Partner M/s Vivek Enterprises,** No 7, 303, Ashoka Enclave, Netaji Road, Fraser Town, Bangalore 560005, **5. Shri Vikram Dutt, Partner M/s. Vivek Enterprises,** No 7, Sundara Murthy Road, Cox Town, Bangalore 560005

The Reserve price will be **For Property Rs. 2,13,95,000/- (Rupees Two Crores Thirteen Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand only) EMD – 21,39,500/-(Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Five Hundred only)** The earnest money deposit shall be deposited on or before **15.10.2020 up to 5.00 P M**

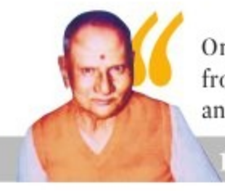
Details of property: Description of the Immovable property (Schedule Property) All that piece and parcel of land and building standing thereon together with fittings and fixtures of and every description therein, bearing Corporation Old No. 4 and New No. 70, situated in Central street, Civil Station, Bangalore, measuring on the East 11 feet and 7 inches or 3.52 meters, West 12 feet or 3.65 meters, North 55 feet and 9 inches or 16.99 meters and South 55 feet and 9 inches or 16.99 meters comprising a sital area of 60.98 square meters and built area of 48.54 square meters :- East by: Property Belonging to Sri Srinivasan West by : Central Street North by : Property Belonging to Sri Srinivasan South by : Property bearing corporation No 71.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **Website: (www.canarabank.com)** or may **contact Manager, Canara Bank, Fraser Town Branch # 86/3 ,Coles Road, Fraser Town Bangalore- 560 005. Tel: 080- 25554842 M-9483530407 email: cb0407@canarabank.com** during office hours on any working day

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 14.09.2020

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

EDITORIAL



Only what liberates you from desire and fear and wrong ideas is good

Nisargadatta Maharaj

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

FIVE-POINT CONSENSUS JUST THE BEGINNING OF LONG ROAD TO PEACE

After months of Chinese obstinacy, Nature seems to have played a part in shortening the odds on disengagement along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, as both Beijing and New Delhi are aware that adverse weather conditions would make the aggressive standoff positions difficult to manage in winter. Racing against time to resolve the deadlock, both agreed on a five-point consensus, pointing out that the current border situation is not in the interest of either side. Troops should continue dialogue, quickly disengage, maintain proper distance and ease tensions, the mechanism said. The plan was unveiled after the first face-to-face meeting between Indian and Chinese foreign ministers S Jaishankar and Wang Yi on Friday in Moscow got distilled into a joint statement, setting the political roadmap for resolving the stand-off. "As the situation eases, both sides should expedite work to conclude new confidence building measures to maintain and enhance peace in the border areas," the mechanism stated, defusing speculation for now on the possibility of a limited war. While tranquillity has since been observed along the LAC, it's up to the military leadership to work out a tangible disengagement plan on a reciprocal basis. If the situation on the ground satisfactorily eases, a possible meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the forthcoming G20 summit in Saudi Arabia in November could formally reset bilateral ties. As things stand now, the substantive relationship for decades despite an unmarked border has gone frigid, especially after the Galwan Valley violence. The situation can be remedied only if there is peace and tranquility along the border, Jaishankar emphasised.

While there was no mention of India's demand on restoring status quo ante on the LAC in the joint statement or the separate readouts of the positions taken by both foreign ministers during the talks, the Chinese version did not blame India for the crisis either, indicating nuancing on both sides. But if past experience is anything to go by, China does not necessarily walk the peace talk. A fully verifiable pullout from frontline positions is non-negotiable. The joint statement is just the beginning of a long road to a tranquil LAC.

NEED COUNSELLING TO STEM NEET SUICIDES

A day before the nation prepared to take the National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (NEET) on Sunday, there were three deaths by suicide in quick succession in Tamil Nadu. While a 19-year-old killed herself in Madurai, allegedly due to NEET-related stress, two others between 19 and 21 years followed suit in Namakkal and Dharmapuri. These suicides were reported just when the state's Ariyalur district became the eye of a political storm when a 19-year-old NEET aspirant jumped into a well last week. His village is close to where the suicide of Anitha, a poor Dalit girl, three years ago sparked off a wave of anti-NEET protests across the state.

The spate of suicides has also thrown political leaders into a tizzy. But glorifying Anitha's suicide and observing her 'martyrdom' is another trigger that should have been nipped in the bud. Many political parties in Tamil Nadu have all along been rallying for scrapping NEET, saying it will widen the social divide in the education sector. They have been demanding that board exam marks be made the criterion for admission to medical colleges. This had even led to the state government coming out with the Tamil Nadu Admission to MBBS and BDS Courses Bill, 2017. But it was withheld by the President in September 2017.

When disbanding of NEET was becoming a distant option, the government started free coaching classes to help students handle the test. But the pandemic only widened the chasm. The crisis has affected the coaching schedule. When the announcement of holding the exams in a sanitised atmosphere by the National Testing Agency came out, there was a scurry to resume online coaching. But despite all efforts, the social and digital divide widened. NEET took place at 238 centres across the state, but this year, there was a 12.4% decline in enrolment for the exam in the state as opposed to a 5% dip in the country.

What can be done to address the issue? A way forward can be including counselling along with the free coaching classes to help students handle stress better.

Why China decided to move militarily against India and then did not fully pursue that line is a question begging an answer

LADAKH STAND-OFF: IT'S TIME FOR STRATEGIC CLARITY

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)

Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps. Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir

TAPAS RANJAN

For the better part of the last four months and more, strategic experts, China watchers around the world, military institutions and others have been wracking their brains about the course of events in Ladakh. With close to 80,000 troops concentrated in balance on both sides of the LAC, the chances of a decisive military engagement appears close to zero. The winter is six-eight weeks away and fresh positions at the LAC have recently been occupied by both sides. At the same time, two sets of high-level political engagements have taken place in Moscow during the SCO meetings. Nothing negative has emerged from these but there have been no breakthroughs either, placing the onus of further talks at the military level for a possible step forward; that is at best a decision to wait and watch. The external affairs minister's meeting resulted in a broad understanding that transactionally reiterates the past protocols. The question then arises as to where all this is heading because none of it inspires any hope for disengagement on the ground. China has had issues through 2020 with many nations, including the US, Australia, Vietnam, Taiwan and Japan, but nowhere has it come down to a near military showdown. Why it decided to move militarily against India and then did not fully pursue that line is a question begging an answer. Strategic clarity is missing.

There could yet be military exchanges in the period leading up to winter; for Xi Jinping, this is an awkward period, especially with the fifth plenary of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in October 2020. Equally, October is likely to see the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), which has suddenly emerged as a very important platform for India and China. If the Russians want to add value to the SCO's Moscow summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi would be urged to attend. A raging turbulence at the LAC is hardly the environment the Russians would like at such a juncture and the Chinese too may not wish to perturb them. Thus, a tenuous peace could exist but shorn of all trust. With an unlikely reduction of forces and a stiff winter ahead, the military resources of both sides are likely to stay put. China's PLA could still afford to partially draw down, retaining the ability to rapidly reinduct. On our side, that luxury is difficult due to terrain constraints in winter.

The feasibility of an odd skirmish exists if China wishes to make a statement before winter. Contingent upon when the heavy snow comes, and that could be as late as December, an effort to put India on warning by attempting eviction of one or more of the fresh Chushul occupations by the Indian Army remains a possibility, but the chances of it succeeding appear extremely remote.

China is likely to stay put with an optimum number of troops and seek to build up from a new and indeterminate situation in April-May 2021. All the more reason why we need to know what its intent is. The initial postulation was that it was to set a new narrative for Chinese domination for the post-Covid world order, against nations considered to be emerging as immediate competitors. The use of wolf warrior diplomacy to cow down these nations was alluded to. If we go by that understanding, a conflict situation should have been expected. The PLA came with insufficient troop strength to inflict a defeat or it came with unrealistic contempt and realised the Indian military and political confidence a little too late. Alternatively, China perhaps completely misread India's ability to defend its interests and raise the stakes by a near mobilisation to all the potential pressure points along the northern border, that too with a Covid-affected economy looming in the backdrop. What perhaps started as a short-term coercive action by China to set the stage for the nebulous post-Covid situation has now turned into a millstone. It therefore needs to be converted into and pursued more with a long-term perspective. China's ill-conceived strategy has actually resulted in enhanced Indian strategic confidence, especially after the recent turn of events in Chushul. That strategic confidence must be seen as a continuum from the events of 5 August 2019 when India abrogated the special constitutional provisions for J&K and published new maps of its territories, which included Gilgit-Baltistan, PoK and Aksai Chin. It had perturbed Pakistan no end and many of the Indian actions related to this had effectively limited Pakistan's options. China's initial coercive action in May-June 2020 was visualised by some as collusion with Pakistan to dilute the emerging Indian strategic confidence. With none of that achieved, it's a long call that China is now awaiting the world of 2021 after the US Presidential election and potentially the beginning of a post-Covid-19 world.

> Beijing perhaps completely misread New Delhi's ability to defend its interests and raise the stakes by a near mobilisation to all the potential pressure points along the northern border. ... China's ill-conceived strategy has actually resulted in enhanced Indian strategic confidence, especially after the recent turn of events in Chushul

How must India prepare itself for such an eventuality? While military resources for the moment appear reasonable, fast-track acquisitions for the prioritised domains of air defence, artillery, anti-tank missiles, surveillance equipment, protective gear and more must continue irrespective of the economic conditions. India is paying the price for past tardiness and cannot ignore the transformational needs of the Armed Forces. The Ladakh deployment is near permanent now; that means more formations are required because reserves have been sucked in here. At least two additional divisions as reserves for the Army HQ and Northern Command are an imperative. The Navy and the Air Force have their share of needs. The Indian Navy's more proactive involvement in the Indian Ocean appears a given if we have to be seen as an effective player of the Quad and the maritime domain. On the diplomatic front, India's squaring up to China has given a boost to its image. It must use this image positively with the right strategic messaging to Beijing of the futility of its intent. India has the will and potential to look at its future position in the world order delinked from China. This needs to be clearly projected through its military actions and diplomatic dealings. As a start, it must ensure there is no stepping back from the Kailash Range positions in Chushul, something now set in stone.

(atahasnain@gmail.com)

SWAMI AGNIVESH WILL ALWAYS REMAIN A BEACON OF HOPE

SMITA GUPTA

Senior political journalist

Swami Agnivesh was perhaps best known for his campaign against the horrific practice of bonded labour. But there were many other causes that he was associated with in his more than four decades of public service: Alongside his fellow citizens, he unflaggingly battled injustice, communalism and authoritarianism. He was a constant and persistent presence, fighting the battle of the day to preserve the foundations of Indian democracy and uphold the values of the Constitution.

If he was jailed for 14 months for his opposition to the Emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi in 1975, he joined forces with former chairperson of the National Minority Commission Wajahat Habibullah and Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad more than four decades later to file a petition against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), pointing out that the amended Act created a classification based on religion, thereby violating the basic structure of the Constitution.

He lent his voice to many major people's movements over the last few decades, whether that was the Narmada Bachao Andolan, against economic globalisation or Anna Hazare's anti-corruption campaign. He was at the forefront of demanding the abolition of manual scavenging, an end to the practice of sati and female foeticide, and the entry of Dalits into temples. In 2010, during the Congress-led UPA government's second term, he was appointed as a mediator for a dialogue with the Maoists. He led marches with Asghar Ali Engineer to defuse communal violence and helped launch a multi-religious forum called Religions for Social Justice, leading a group of 55 religious leaders to the place where Australian Christian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons were burned to death in their sleep by members of the Bajrang Dal.

For the BJP and its RSS affiliates, that he carried out all his activities dressed in a saffron turban—that resembled the one worn by Swami Vivekananda—and robes as a member of the Arya Samaj (in 2004, he became President of the World Council of the Arya Samaj), was an affront.

It was not surprising, therefore, that he was assaulted by BJP activists in New Delhi outside their party headquarters in 2018 when he was on his way to pay his respects to the mortal remains of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The assailants grabbed his turban and shawl and beat him up. For the soft-spoken, then 78-year-old Swami Agnivesh, it was a great shock. In an article in another media platform, he later wrote: "I have been an eyesore to the RSS for long because of my life-long commitment to social justice. The ideal of justice is an irritant to the RSS."

> Swami Agnivesh's great contribution will always remain what he was able to achieve through the Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM), the organisation he set up in 1981 that since then has freed more than 1,72,000 workers. Not to mention the trade unions he set up—including those for brick kiln workers, stone quarry workers and construction workers. For his pioneering work, he was thrice elected as Chairperson of the UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Swami Agnivesh's great contribution will always remain what he was able to achieve through the Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM), the organisation he set up in 1981 that since then has freed more than 1,72,000 workers. Not to mention the trade unions he set up—including those for brick kiln, stone quarry and construction workers. For his pioneering work, he was thrice elected as Chairperson of the UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

But despite his life-long battle against the BJP/RSS combine—he famously said that it was citizenship rather than Hindutva that bound the people of India together—he failed to deploy the Arya Samaj, of which he was a leading light, to counter the Hindutva narrative. He was uniquely positioned to do so, but perhaps, he spent his time fighting too many battles.

Born Vepa Shyam Rao on 21 September 1939 in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, Swami Agnivesh's maternal grandfather—in whose home he grew up—was the Diwan of a princely state called Shakti, now in Chhattisgarh. With degrees in law and business management, he became a lecturer at St Xavier's, Kolkata and, for some years, practised law under Sabyasachi Mukherjee, who later became the Chief Justice of India. Though he belonged to an orthodox Hindu Brahmin family, he became a full-time worker of the Arya Samaj, a Hindu reformist movement, in 1968. Two years later, he became a sanyasi, renouncing worldly possessions and becoming, in the process, Swami Agnivesh.

After the general elections of 1977 that swept Indira Gandhi from office, he was elected to the Haryana Legislative Assembly, becoming the education minister. He rapidly became disillusioned and resigned, deciding to devote all his energy and time to social justice movements. His social and educational background could have taken him down another path, but he chose not to. For that alone, perhaps, posterity will remember him. And for the reporters of my generation for whom he was part of the political landscape, he will always remain a beacon of hope.

(smita_g@hotmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Don't politicise suicides

I am anguished by the news of students committing suicide before appearing for NEET. We have also read about students who fail in Class 10 or 12 committing suicide. So this should not be politicised at all. And cancellation of all such exams is not a solution. Parents and teachers must make children realise that exams cannot be avoided and that they are not an end in themselves.

S Srihari, Chennai

Fishing in troubled waters

In the sixties, TN witnessed anti-Hindi agitations culminating in self-immolation bids. The DMK used it for electoral gains. Now the NEET exam fear has led to the loss of three valuable lives. Instead of helping and counselling youngsters, certain political parties have started fishing in the troubled waters.

A Srinivasan, Kizhanatham

Career counselling

It is high time states and the Centre take suitable measures so that our young students do not take such harsh decisions. Parents and teachers have to inculcate in children the mentality to face problems with courage, accept failures and learn lessons from them. Let them also understand that other than the conventional professional careers—engineering and medicine—there are hundreds of courses that have very good scope. Career counselling should be made part of school education.

M Pradyu, Kannur

Babudom's faults

The article *Replace sattabhogis with karmayogis* (Sep 13) hit the nail on the head. The forts of bureaucracy have long been synonymous with arrogance, inefficiency and self-promotion.

Ramanarayana P A V, T'puram

On Mission Karmayogi

I agree with the author's analysis of the new National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building envisaged in Mission Karmayogi. There are many aims but for the two most-desired ones, accountability and time-bound delivery. The Centre should incorporate these two attributes too in the Mission to render it foolproof against any inefficiency.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Professionals from outside

Mission Karmayogi is intended to make the Indian civil servant more creative and proactive. No doubt the civil service is not made of mediocre people, but the time-bound promotion that they enjoy makes them less accountable. The author's suggestion that the PMO and CMOs be manned by professionals from outside the service should be considered.

Dharmarajan A K, Thalassery

Make them accountable

It's a big anomaly that civil servants still boss over more capable, qualified and knowledgeable people. We need to make the civil service responsible for the timely implementation of projects and schemes once decided, regardless of change of government.

P Mangalachandran, Kannur

Agree with the author

This is with reference to *Realities beyond the peacock moment* (Sep 13). I agree with the views of the author. The common man will not get any benefit from the corona relief package. Added to that is our confusing judicial process that does not deliver its outright verdict on any issue within a reasonable time frame. And most of the ministerial announcements are undoubtedly for the sake of publicity and to get votes.

V Sathyanarayanan, Tiruchanur

Why bring up Rafale?

While agreeing that not all decisions of the prime minister may have resulted in success, the motives are not questionable. It has now become a regular feature of the Point of View column to criticise the prime minister. Attributing motives to the Rafale deal, which has been cleared by the highest court of the land, makes no sense.

R Sriramprasad, Bengaluru

Need constructive criticism

There were hasty moves like demonetisation. But the prime minister's decisions that have helped the people have been ignored. It would be better if the author comes out with concrete suggestions on the issues India faces in these Covid times, such as the economy, instead of only constantly criticising the PM.

Ramalingeswara Rao, Hyderabad

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Amit Shah @Amitshah
Raghuvanshji's dedication to the welfare of the poor and deprived class will always be remembered. I express my condolences to his family. Om Shanti

Sanjay Raut @rautsanjay61
An actress humiliates the CM and people of the state shouldn't react, what kind of one-sided freedom is this?

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
Madurai girl's suicide before NEET murder of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao slogan

Obnoxious: CPM lambasts Delhi Police

Party hits out over Yechury's name in riots chage sheet; accuses BJP of 'stooping to a new low'; Cong backs Left

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE CPM on Sunday slammed the Centre over the reference to its party leader Sitaram Yechury and others in a supplementary chargesheet filed by the police in Delhi communal riots case.

Party Rajya Sabha MP KK Ragesh has given 'suspension of business notice' under Rule 267 in Rajya Sabha, seeking that the House expresses serious concerns on the Delhi police making reference to Yechury in the charge sheet in the communal riots which raged the national capital in February this year and claimed over 50 lives.

The Congress has also thrown its weight behind the CPI (M) and accused the Delhi Police of bringing the criminal justice system to ridicule. It charged that the BJP has 'stooped to a new low' in its attempt to suppress peaceful dissent against its policies.

"The Delhi police have brought the criminal justice system to ridicule by naming Yechury and many other scholars and activists in a supplementary charge sheet in the

Sitaram Yechury, Yogendra Yadav

Delhi riots case," former Union Minister and senior Congress leader P Chidambaram tweeted on Sunday.

The CPI (M) politburo in a statement on Sunday strongly condemned the Delhi Police for dragging its party leader in the case.

"The CPI(M) condemns this obnoxious action by the Delhi Police to further the narrative of its political masters and urges the government to desist from such acts of criminalising peaceful political protests," the party said in a statement.

"Acting under Home Minister Amit Shah, Delhi Police has tried to implicate prominent political leadership, academics, cultural personalities and activists in connection with the horrific communal violence in North East Delhi in February," the politburo said in the statement. The CPI (M) also gave a call for protests against the actions of the Delhi police across the country.

Meanwhile, Delhi Police has denied media reports that it had named CPI (M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, Swaraj Abhiyan leader Yogendra Yadav, economist Jayati Ghosh, DU professor and activist Apoorvanand and documentary filmmaker Rahul Roy as co-conspirators in a supplementary charge sheet filed in the Delhi riots case.

An outstanding leader, Raghuvansh Babu was a true stalwart with phenomenal understanding of rural India. With his spartan, he enriched public life

Ram Nath Kovind, Prez

Raghuvansh Babu's death is a personal loss to me and an irreparable loss to the political, social and educational life of Bihar as well as the socialist movement

Nitish Kumar, Bihar CM

Raghuvanshji's life was devoted to the development of Bihar. He always followed the high ideals of social life. May God rest his soul and support family in this hour of grief.

Narendra Modi, PM

Dear Raghuvansh Babu! What did you do. I told you the day before yesterday, you are not going anywhere. But you went so far. I am silent, I am sad. Will miss you very much

Lalu Yadav, RJD chief

He was a strong pillar of socialism, dedicated his life for the poor. In his public life, including his participation in JP movement, he never compromised with ideals

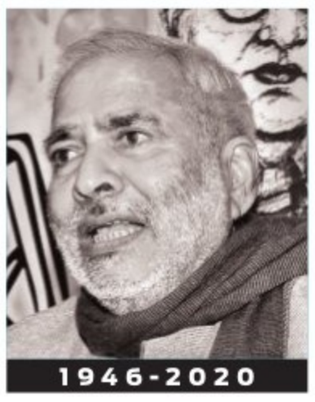
JP Nadda, BJP chief

With the demise of Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ji, a strong voice of farmers has been lost forever. His struggle for social justice will always be remembered. My heartfelt tributes

Rahul Gandhi, Congress

R.I.P. LAST OF TRUE SOCIALISTS

MANISH ANAND @New Delhi



OVER the past few years, Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, one of the last true Socialists, was aghast at the scale of money power influencing elections and deeply pained at the spectacle of dynasties holding the reins of the political outfits born out of the social justice movement.

Even in his last days, as he battled deteriorating health conditions, Raghuvansh Babu, concern for the people of Bihar was agitating his mind. At 74, Singh passed away at AIIMS-Delhi on Sunday after a prolonged illness.

Just four days ago, he had sent his resignation to Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chief Lalu Prasad, of whom he had been a long associate, pained as he was at the party's heir apparent ignoring his role in building it.

Sharp and witty, as parliamentary debates were a testimony, Singh served five terms as a Lok Sabha MP from Vaishali in Bihar. He was one of the rare few who could question even Lalu, and yet, was held in high esteem by the former Bihar chief minister.

The mathematician-turned-politician is widely hailed as a Socialist who remained unblemished even as the RJD leadership was mired in scams and controversies. In critical situations, he showed a sense of exasperation to resign from the RJD, only to be turned down by party chief.

A few months ago, Singh was full of vigour, going ballistic against the scale of money poured in the electioneering and dynasties derailing the politics of social justice.

Sharing anecdotes with this reporter during the Budget session of Parliament, Singh remarked, "Politics now is not for people like me. From where can I arrange so much of money needed to contest elections? Even party workers now are used to being paid richly in times of elections."

Leaders across the party lines remember Singh for shaping up the grand architecture of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act — now MGNREGA — cutting through the bureaucratic maze to give the UPA an electoral template to retain power in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections. He was Union Minister for Rural Development in UPA-I.

Singh had a long stint in the Bihar state legislature before he moved to national politics. He was impatient with the alibi of rules for not implementing decisions, saying they work in the government to get works done and not give excuses.

Cremation today with state honour in Bihar

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

A pall of gloom descended on Shahpur, the native village of Raghuvansh Prasad Singh in Vaishali district of Bihar, as the news of his demise reached.

Hundreds of villagers gathered at Singh's ancestral house with tears in their eyes. "Bihar ka Gandhi chala gaya. Jo jia Gandhi ki tarah, aur raha bi Gandhi (Bihar's Gandhi has left us; he lived like the Mahatma), wailed 75-year-old Ramadhar Singh. He was popularly known as 'Braham Baba' (a rural deity) because of his simplicity and righteousness, the villagers said.

"Of late, he would often say that the call from the Almighty may come any time. But we are proud of his legacy of socialism and principled personal and political life," said his nephew Mukesh Kumar.

The state government announced that his last rites would be performed with full state honour on Monday on the bank of the River Ganga near his village. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed deep condolence, saying it was a personal loss.

Though Singh was miffed with the party and had resigned just three days ago, the RJD decided to keep the party flag down at its office for next seven days to mourn his death. Jailed RJD chief Lalu Prasad tweeted, "Dear Raghuvansh babu! What did you do? I told you the day before yesterday, you are not going anywhere. But you went so far. I am speechless. I am sad. Will miss you very much."

In this 2005 file photo, then cabinet ministers Pranab Mukherjee, Lalu Prasad Yadav and Raghuvansh Prasad Singh coming out of the PMO in New Delhi | PTI

NC president to attend Parl, raise Article 370 issue

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

LOK Sabha MP and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah attend the Monsoon Session of Parliament beginning Monday. He arrived in New Delhi on Sunday. This is his first visit to the national capital after the abrogation of provisions of Article 370.

The National Conference president is likely to be in focus since he was under detention during the last two sessions.

"Abdullah, who is three-time former J&K Chief Minister, reached the national capital today to participate in the parliament session," NC MP from south Kashmir Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi told this newspaper.

Masoodi said Abdullah would definitely raise the Article 370 revocation issue in the Lok Sabha. "Abdullah will decide when to raise the issue," he said adding in view of Covid-19 pandemic, the Question Hour has been suspended and Zero Hour curtailed.

On August 5 last year, a bill for re-organisation of J&K was tabled in Parliament and the 82-year-old was taken into preventive custody.

Ensure oxygen in all hospitals, Centre to 7 states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

TWO days after asking states to take responsibility for ensuring oxygen to all needy Covid-19 patients, the Centre on Sunday asked seven states to ensure its availability in all hospitals and allow its intra as well as unrestricted movement.

These big states included Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

The Union ministry of health and family welfare has intervened into the issue of oxygen availability amid reports that many hospitals in several states are struggling to cope with high demand of oxygen for Covid-19 patients.

In the meeting in which officials from Centre and states and industry representatives participated, the Union government has advised the states to ensure facility wise oxygen inventory management and advance planning for timely replenishment so that there are no stockouts. Reiterating that no restriction is imposed on the movement of medical oxygen between states, the Centre has also created these states to create provision of "Green Corridor" for liquid medical oxygen tanks within the cities. Also, the states have been asked to ensure timely payment of the due bills to the manufacturers and suppliers to maintain uninterrupted supply of oxygen.

The Centre also emphasised on improving power supply infrastructure and ensuring uninterrupted supply to oxygen manufacturing units.

It also said that proper disinfection of oxygen cylinders should be carried out as per protocols while sending cylinders to fillers of oxygen and there should be effective coordination with steel plants for oxygen procurement.

Centre to give 50 tonne oxygen per day to MP

The Centre has agreed to supply 50 tonnes of oxygen per day to Madhya Pradesh, which is facing oxygen shortage amid a rise in Covid-19 cases, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said. "On my request, the Government of India today has agreed to supply 50 tonne oxygen a day, taking our oxygen availability to 180 tonne a day," Chouhan tweeted on Saturday night. He also thanked PM Narendra Modi and Union minister Piyush Goyal for their support to the state.

EXPRESS READ

Gujjar community threatens to resume quota stir

Jaipur: Gujjar leader Col Kirori Singh Bainsla has issued an ultimatum to the Centre and the Ashok Gehlot government in Rajasthan to fulfil their three major demands in the next 30 days or they would resume their quota agitation. Meanwhile, Former Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot has written a letter to chief minister Ashok Gehlot over issues pertaining to the 5 per cent reservation under the MBC category provided to Gujjars and four other castes.

'Left-Cong tie-up to be a game-changer in Bengal'

Kolkata: Newly appointed state Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Sunday said his party, together with the Left, will prove to be a "game-changer" in the 2021 Bengal Assembly elections, and warned the ruling TMC and the BJP that the contest won't be a cakewalk for them. Chowdhury, a bitter critic of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, said his focus would be to eat into the vote share of both the TMC and the BJP, and restore secular ethos in the state.

Vaccine will be first made available to those who need it the most: Minister

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THERE are three vaccine candidates—two of them homegrown—under human trials as of now in the country, which is now seeing over 95,000 Covid-19 confirmed cases every day.

The minister's statement is especially remarkable as various senior officials, including ICMR director Dr Balram Bhargava, who had drawn flak in July for pushing hospitals to fast-track trials of the Bharat Biotech vaccine candidate, had later clarified that due scientific and ethical processes will be followed in vaccine development.

The same stand has been repeated by Dr V K Paul, member(health), Niti Aayog who also heads the expert group on Covid-19 vaccine, on several occasions.

During the interaction, the minister maintained that while no date has been fixed for the vaccine launch, it may be ready by the first quarter of 2021.

He added that the government is taking full precautions in conducting the human trials of the vaccine and also, a detailed strategy on how to immunize the majority of the population is being drawn that includes vaccine security, cost, equity, cold-chain requirements and production timelines.

Vardhan also said that the vaccine will be first made available to those who need it the most, irrespective of their paying capacity. A safe and effective vaccine will help in establishing immunity to Covid-19 at a much faster pace as compared to the natural infection, said the minister, adding that it is hoped that a consensus will emerge in next few months over the desired level of protective herd immunity in any community.

RULE EXPLAINED

Photography not banned on flights: DGCA

NEW DELHI: AVIATION regulator DGCA on Sunday clarified that passengers are allowed to take photos and videos inside flights but cannot use any recording equipment that creates chaos, disrupts flight operations, violates safety norms or is banned by the crew members.

The clarification has come a day after the DGCA order which said that a scheduled flight will be suspended for two weeks if anyone is found taking photos inside the plane.

The statement comes in response to an incident on an Indigo flight on September 9 where several mediapersons found surrounding actor Kangana Ranaut violating social distancing protocols. Reporters and cameramen were seen jostling and bunching up to get a comment from Ranaut.

Will face all political storms, says Uddhav; calls for patience on Maratha quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister **Uddhav Thackeray** on Sunday appealed to the Maratha community to restrain from holding protests at the time of the coronavirus pandemic and said his government was taking all steps to get the Supreme Court stay on the reservations vacated.

In a web address, Uddhav said the apex court ruling was unexpected as the reservations in other states had not been touched while the Maratha quota had been stayed. He, however, added, "We do not want to do politics over this sensitive issue. The government is committed for this reservation. We will also approach the SC to take the case to a larger constitution bench...We appeal to people to cooperate with government."

The CM's statement came as pro-Maratha activists have started calling meetings to hold protests in various districts. "This is your government, so there is no point agitating against our own people...Let's solve this together," a beleaguered Uddhav urged the people.

In an indirect reference to the controversy over Kangana Ranaut's spat with his party, the Shiv Sena, Uddhav said deliberate efforts were made by some people to malign the state and target his government. "But I have seen many such political storms Whatever political storms come, I will face... I will fight coronavirus too." Alleging that "politics is being played" over the entire issue, he said, "I will have to remove the mask of CM to respond to politics. I don't speak doesn't mean I don't have answers."

However, the CM kept mum over the attack on a retired navy officer by Shiv Sainiks.

I have seen many such political storms Whatever political storms come, I will face... I will fight coronavirus too... I will have to remove the mask of CM to respond to politics

Uddhav Thackeray, CM

'Systematic effort to defame Mumbai'

Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Sunday said it was unfortunate that the BJP is backing Kangana Ranaut despite the actress likening Mumbai to Pak-occupied Kashmir, and added this was done with an eye on Bihar polls. Raut, executive editor of Shiv Sena mouthpiece Saamana claimed there is a systematic effort to reduce the importance of Mumbai, and constantly defaming the city.

Kangana meets Guv, seeks 'justice'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mumbai

BOLLYWOOD actor Kangana Ranaut, who is locked in a bitter battle with the ruling Shiv Sena in Maharashtra, met state Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari on Sunday.

She said she explained to the governor her 'point of view' and sought 'justice'.

The meeting took place days after the Sena-ruled BMC demolished alleged illegal alterations at Kangana's bungalow at Pali Hill in suburban Bandra following a verbal spat between the ruling party and her over her remarks on Mumbai and the city police.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, the actor said, "I met the governor. He heard me as a daughter. I came to meet him as a citizen. I have nothing to do with politics."

"I told him about the injustice meted out to me and what happened was improper. It was indecent behaviour," she said.

She was accompanied by her sister Rangoli Chandel.

Kangana bowed to touch Koshyari's feet.

About the meeting, she later tweeted, "A short while ago, I met his Excellency the Governor of Maharashtra Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyariji. I explained my point of view to him and also requested that justice be given to me. It will restore faith of common citizen and particularly daughters in the system."

Actor Kangana Ranaut with Maharashtra Governor at Raj Bhawan in Mumbai | PTI

COVID TEST RATE

Uttarakhand government has fixed the rates for Covid tests at border checkposts for those entering the state without a negative test report. "Rate for antigen test has been fixed at ₹800 while people will be charged ₹2,400 for RT-PCR," Chief Secretary Om Prakash said

75 DEATHS DUE TO COVID IN MUMBAI POLICE

Ahmedabad	33	27	Mumbai	32	25
Bhopal	35	24	Panaji	30	24
Jaipur	37	27	Patna	34	26
Amritsar	36	25	Lucknow	35	27
Chennai	34	26	Port Blair	30	25
Kolkata	34	28	Imphal	29	21
Srinagar	29	13	Chandigarh	35	25

Poll-bound Bihar gets petro projects

Prime Minister inaugurates three key projects; heaps praise on state's talent, Nitish govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi/Patna

PM Modi launched three petroleum projects in Bihar via video conferencing | PTI

> **You can look at any sector— education, income tax, labour or healthcare. The contribution of Bihar in is clearly visible. Therefore, it's our duty to serve Bihar and take it to best levels of development**
> Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

PRAISING the contribution of Bihar in national development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that "we all owe a lot to the state". The prime minister counted the achievements of the past 15 years setting the tone for the upcoming assembly elections. He also showered praise on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar saying good governance brings good developments.

PM Modi, who inaugurated three petroleum projects in Bihar on Sunday, called for fast work so Bihar can become the centre of development in the eastern region of the country.

"Bihar is the powerhouse of the country's talent. The imprint of Bihar's labour will be seen in the development of every state. In the last 15 years, Bihar has also shown with a right government, right decisions and a clear policy, development happens and reaches everyone," he said.

The prime minister dedicated to the nation three key projects— the Durgapur-Banka section of the Paradip-Haldia-Durgapur Pipeline Augmentation Project and two LPG Bottling Plants in Banka and East Champaran worth ₹901 crores.

PM Modi said that the gas pipeline will play a crucial role in the economic development of the land-locked state.

Speaking via video, the prime minister hailed CM Nitish Kumar for spearheading the developmental works in the state. "Once upon a time in Bihar, no one was discussing or even thinking about good roads, electricity, education and internet connectivity. With the NDA coming to power under Nitish Kumar, the face of Bihar has changed to an emerging prosperous state," he said.

"There was a thinking that education was not necessary as the youth of Bihar have to work in fields. Due to this thinking, not much work was done to open large educational institutions in Bihar. So the youth of Bihar were forced to go out to study," he said adding that big centres of education are now opening in Bihar.

"Now the number of agricultural, medical and engineering colleges is increasing. IIT, IIM and IIIT in the state are helping to make the dreams of the youth of Bihar soar," he said.

PM Modi said there are more than 8,000 projects in Bihar on which ₹6 lakh crore will be spent in the coming days. He said migrant labourers have returned back to the state and new employment opportunities have also been created.

BLOWOUT

Assam oil well fire controlled after 110 days

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

THE fire at Baghjan Well No 5 in Assam's Tinsukia district has finally been controlled, 110 days since a "blowout" or uncontrolled emission of natural gas occurred at the site.

According to oil exploration major Oil India Limited (OIL), foreign experts, after early setbacks, were able to divert part of the gas to two flaring pits and the rest to an EPS (early production system) on Sunday. This caused the fire to die out.

"It was a complex process. The fire was doused by successfully diverting natural gas that was spewing out of the blowout well head. Since there is no fuel, there is no fire now," an OIL spokesperson said. He said the next step would be to kill the well. "We are constantly monitoring well head pressures and related parameters. The well-killing operation will be undertaken once the whole system is stabilised," he added.

The operation was carried out after experts from Singapore-based M/s Alert and OIL had completed inspection of the well head and studying other safety-related issues.

The OIL in a statement said: "The flow of gas was diverted to EPS at around 8.40 am after closing the BOP (blowout preventer) and flaring part of the gas which was diverted to two flare pits".

The statement said all safety precautions were in place and the well head, BOP stack, choke manifold, etc were being continuously sprayed with water for cooling.

The blowout had occurred on May 27 which resulted in non-stop emission of natural gas. Even as the experts were trying to fix it, a massive fire broke out on June 9 that claimed the lives of two firefighters of the OIL. Last week, a 25-year-old electrical engineer died after being electrocuted at the site.

LAST MINUTE PREP

Candidates appearing in the NEET travel in a metro train in Kolkata on Sunday. The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation resumed special service of 66 trains for the NEET aspirants | PTI

Now, PDS scam busted in Indore

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

DAYS after a rice scam was busted in Madhya Pradesh's Balaghat and Mandla districts, a syndicate comprising foodgrain traders, transporters and government employees in Indore has been found siphoning off foodgrains and kerosene meant for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and selling in the open market.

> **Involvement of a State Civil Supplies Corporation employee, too, has come to the fore and he has also been booked along with others**
> Manish Singh, Indore District Collector

District administration sources said following a specific complaint in Mhow sub-division, a raid was conducted at the godown of Harshit Traders, owned by Mohit Agrawal, and more than 600 bags of rice, meant for supply under TPDS, seized. The bills produced with respect to the rice bags were found to be forged. Mohit's father Mohanlal Agrawal has been a registered transporter with the State Civil Supplies Corporation.

Subsequently, a special investigation team was constituted to investigate the matter. The probe revealed that Mohanlal Agrawal, along with other traders named Lokesh Agrawal, Ayush Agrawal, and owners of some fair price shops, were selling foodgrains, sugar and kerosene meant for BPL families into the open market.

The foodgrain bags were transported to fair price shops. Those operating these shops signed on receipts acknowledging full receipt of the foodgrains. Later, eight-ten quintals of the foodgrains were taken out of the sealed bags and given to Agrawal's men, who sold this off in the open market and paid the fair price shop owners a handsome amount for siphoning of the PDS foodgrains. The modus operandi was followed in the distribution of sugar and kerosene also.

Indore district collector Manish Singh said initial findings suggested the scam could be worth over ₹50 crore. "The involvement of a State Civil Supplies Corporation employee, too, has come to the fore and he has also been booked along with others," Singh said.

EXPRESS READ

Special teachers for divyang kids in U'Khand

Dehradun: Private schools in Uttarakhand will have to hire a 'Special' teacher to cater to 'Divyang' students. The move comes after parents and guardians complained to the state government alleging that private schools deny admissions to children with special needs citing no availability of teacher trained to tend to such students.

BJP bickers with NPP over funds, threatens to quit Meghalaya govt

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

A war of words has broken out between allies BJP and National People's Party (NPP) in Meghalaya over alleged misappropriation of Central funds. The fight has come to such a pass that the BJP threatened to pull out of the NPP-led ruling alliance. The BJP, a constituent of the ruling alliance, has two MLAs and one of them is a minister.

BJP alleged that funds, allocated to Garo Hills Autonomous District Council and Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council by the Centre under Special Assistant Grant for the development of under-developed areas, had been misappropriated in the names of ghost bridges, footpaths and repair works of official buildings and guest houses. The NPP rules both the councils.

Demanding a CBI probe in the matter, BJP state president Ernest Mawrie said they would not tolerate any "corrupt practices". "We will raise the matter with the state government. If it fails to take cognisance of it, we will be left with no choice but to pull out our support," Mawrie threatened.

The NPP dared the BJP to withdraw from the coalition. NPP state unit president WR Kharlukhi said the BJP appeared headed towards a "tinpot dictatorship".

"If he (Mawrie) is so convinced that we are corrupt, why don't they pull out of the alliance? They could have discussed the matter within the alliance instead of going to the media," he said.

Meghalaya is the second state in the Northeast where the relationship between the two parties has soured. In June, all four NPP MLAs in Manipur had pulled out of the BJP-led government. They had returned to the government when the party's central leadership, including Amit Shah, assured them that their grievances would be addressed.

WB: BJP worker found dead; party alleges murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

TENSION prevailed in Goghat area of Hooghly, about 90 km from Kolkata, after the body of a BJP worker Ganesh Roy was found hanging from a tree near his home on Sunday morning. The BJP leadership in Bengal alleged that Roy was first murdered and then hanged. His family members and relatives have claimed that he was murdered by activists of the ruling Trinamool Congress.

"Had he committed suicide, the body should have been hanging. But Roy's feet were touching the ground," said a BJP leader of the area. The TMC, meanwhile, has rejected the allegations.

VALLEY AFTER LOCKDOWN

AMID GLOOM, CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN SHOPIAN

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

A farmer picks cherries from a tree in Shopian of south Kashmir | ZAHOOR PUNJABI

THE fruit growers in the north and central Kashmir suffered losses as they could not sell their cherry produce in the outside markets this year due to the Covid-19 lockdown. However, this turned out to be a blessing in disguise for the cherry growers of Shopian who harvested their yield a bit later and were able to sell their produce at higher rates.

Bashir Ahmad Bashir, chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers cum Dealers Union, told this newspaper that the cherry growers in the Valley suffered losses this year due to the closure of markets during the lockdown.

The Valley's annual cherry production is about 13,000-14000 metric tonnes.

Cherry is mainly produced in Srinagar, Laar and Ganderbal in central Kashmir, some parts in north Kashmir, and Shopian in south Kashmir.

The farmers of north and central Kashmir had transported their product to markets outside the Valley but there were hardly any takers for it, said Bashir.

Also, only 10-15 per cent of the cherry was canned while the rest got damaged.

"The canning factories were also closed due to the lockdown," he added.

However, the cherry growers of Shopian were able to sell their products as they harvested their crops a bit later.

Fruit Growers and Dealer Association Shopian president Mohammad Ashraf Wani said they opened the fruit market on May 27 and the growers in Shopian did not face any transportation problem.

"The fruit growers were able to transport their produce to markets outside Kashmir, where demand was higher as produce from the north and central Kashmir had not reached the markets."

Shopian annually produces 4,000 to 5,000 metric tonnes of cherry. Wani said since the demand was high, the rates were higher than in previous years.

Scab takes the shine off Kashmir's apples

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

A trader carries boxes of apple at a market in Shopian | ZAHOOR PUNJABI

APPLE growers in Kashmir are staring at huge losses as about 50-60 per cent of the apple crop across the Valley has been hit by scab. Apple scab is a disease caused by fungus resulting in a fall in the production of high-grade apples as well as overall production.

Bashir Ahmad Bashir, the chairman of the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers cum Dealers Union, said the apple crop across the Valley was hit by scab as the growers could not spray pesticides on time due to Covid-19 lockdown in March-April. He alleged that sub-standard pesticides were available in markets, but they had no option but to use these which failed to save the crop.

According to Bashir, scab was under control in the Valley in the last few years and only 10-15 per cent of the crop used to be affected. "This year 60-70 per cent apple crop has been hit," he said.

Apple farming is one of the mainstay of Kashmir's economy with a turnover of about ₹1, 200 crore a year. In Kashmir, around 19 lakh metric tonnes apple is produced each year and about 7 lakh families are involved in the trade.

According to Bashir, the scab has also led to a fall in the quality of apples. "We have more B and C grade apples this year," he said.

Mohammad Ashraf Wani, president of Fruit Growers and Dealer Association Shopian, also expressed the same concerns. He asked the government to come up with a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). The growers want the J&K government to follow the Himachal model and purchase B and C grade apples from them.

"The Himachal Pradesh government buys B and C grade apples and these apples don't reach markets, resulting in greater demand for A grade product," he said.

Imam Din, Director in the Horticulture Planning & Marketing Department, admitted that scab has hit the apple production in Kashmir. "There was untimely rainfall and hailstorm also," he said. According to Din, the growers won't have a problem in selling A and B grade products but would find problems in marketing C grade apple.

City ranks second in AMRUT implementation

In the national ranking released by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Chandigarh retained the second rank in effective implementation of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) in the country. Under the project the achieved the target of 20,000 tap connections and as also of new sewer connections. Also the administration has replaced 43,853 street lights with LEDs under the Centre-sponsored scheme. The scheme was launched in 500 cities across the country in 2015 with a focus on water supply, sewerage management, storm water drainage, green spaces and parks and non-motorised urban transport.

CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
hsbajwa73@gmail.com

Water gets dearer in Chandigarh

Chandigarh Administration has notified a hike in water tariff ranging from 50 to 200 per cent for various slabs. As per the revised tariff people who consume 0-15 kilolitre per month will pay ₹3 per kilolitre, for 16-30 kilolitre ₹6 per kilolitre and for 31-60 it will be ₹12 per kilolitre and people consuming over 60 kilolitre will pay ₹24 per kilolitre. In addition to the tariff, water cess of ₹20 per month is charged for maintenance of parks and green belts. The penalty for misusing water was increased from ₹2,000 to ₹5,000. The Resident Welfare Associations have strongly sought the review of the hike. Vinod Vashisht, Convener of City Forum of RWAs, termed the hike as without any basis as it should be decided on merit after getting departmental techno-commercial advice.

PETA announces ₹50K reward for finding monkey

The Chandigarh Forest and Wildlife department is yet to find and locate the Rehesus Macque monkey in possession of tattoo artist Kamaljit Singh and his manager Deeepak Vohra. The duo was allegedly accused of illegally keeping the monkey in captivity and both were arrested on August 19 this year and next day were released on bail. The complainant in this case People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has announced a reward of ₹50,000 to anyone who helps in finding the money. The identity of the informer will be kept a secret.

Sukhna Lake to remain open on weekends

Sukhna Lake, the popular spot of the city, will now remain open for visitors on weekends too. The lake was closed for visitors on Saturdays and Sundays on August 14 following a sudden increase in the number of coronavirus cases in the city. During a recent war room meeting, the Chandigarh Administration has decided to discontinue with the weekend closure of the lake. However the police authorities will strictly enforce wearing of masks and social distancing at the lake. Meanwhile, the Chandigarh Administrator VP Singh Badnore has directed that 10,000 additional antigen kits may be procured for enhancing testing in the city.

3,000

New cases in the UK reached over 3,000 for the 2nd day in a row, with the *Sunday Times* reporting that about one-third of those were at elderly care homes.

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	24	18	TDS	Los Angeles	29	17	SNY
Colombo	30	25	TDS	Melbourne	16	5	LC
Doha	38	28	SNY	Moscow	17	8	LC
Dubai	40	29	SNY	New York	26	13	LC
Houston	34	24	SNY	Singapore	30	25	TDS
Istanbul	29	21	LC	Toronto	19	9	SNY
London	30	16	SNY	Washington DC	28	14	LC

Toll from US West Coast wildfires reaches 33, dozens missing

Trump to visit California as the fires scorch more ground; resurgent winds in Oregon threaten to fan the flames; air quality plunges

A fire engine that was destroyed when the Lionshead Fire over-ran the resort community in Detroit, Oregon | AP

PORTLAND

US President Donald Trump said he will meet emergency services in California on Monday as record fires that have killed at least 33 smothered the West Coast in dense smog.

Officials warned of further fatalities with swathes of land in California, Oregon and Washington still cut off by flames fueled by tinder-dry conditions, as presidential challenger Joe Biden linked the fires to climate change.

The infernos have now burnt through nearly 5 million acres, an area roughly the size of New Jersey. Officials in Oregon say resurging wind gusts may fan the flames, the *New York Times* reported.

Trump plans to meet with the heads of California's emergency services, battling fires that have scorched more than 3.2 million acres in the state this year -- an annual record, with nearly four months of fire season still to come.

He has made little comment about the blazes in recent weeks, but at a Nevada campaign event on Saturday he acknowledged the scope of the disaster. "They never had anything like this," he said. "Please remember the words, very simple, forest management."

Most of the deaths occurred in California and Oregon, with officials in the two states recording 30 deaths. Among them was a 13-year-old boy in Oregon, found in a car with his dog in his lap. The road was so hot it had melted the tires as he tried to flee.

Emergency official Andrew Phelps warned Oregon is "preparing for a mass fatality incident based on what we know and the number of structures that have been lost."

Preparations have been hampered by online claims that "extremists" are intentionally setting fires in Oregon, which have been debunked by the FBI.

Facebook said it was removing the posts, some of which sought to link the blazes to Antifa – a structureless movement that says it is dedicated to fighting fascism. "This is based on confirmation from law enforcement that these rumors are forcing local fire and police agencies to divert resources from fighting the fires and protecting the public," wrote Facebook spokesman Andy Stone.

Among the people killed was Millicent Catarancuic, who was found near her car at her five-acre home in Berry Creek, California. At one point she was ready to evacuate with her dogs and cats in the car. But she changed her mind as the winds seemed to calm and the flames stayed away.

Then the fire changed direction, rushing onto the property too quickly for her to leave. She died, along with her animals.

George Coble lost everything just outside Mill City, Oregon — his fence-building business, five houses where his family lived and a collection of vintage cars, including a 1967 Mustang. *Agencies*

California is canary in climate change coal mine

Smoky horizons

Worsening the sense of doom, all five of the world's most air-polluted cities Saturday were on the West Coast, according to IQAir, with dense smog and ash coating the atmosphere from Los Angeles up to Vancouver in Canada. "It's apocalyptic," Washington state governor Jay Inslee told ABC's *This Week*. "It's maddening right now we have this cosmic challenge to our communities, the entire West Coast of the United States on fire, to have a president to deny that these are not just wildfires, these are climate fires," Inslee said. Tens of thousands of people have been displaced in Oregon, California and Washington.

LOS ANGELES

WHAT explains the unprecedented scale of wildfires in the US? Scientists have long said climate change could cause fire seasons like these as human activity heats up the Earth.

Climate change amplifies droughts which dry out regions, creating ideal conditions for wildfires to spread out of control.

And for California, August was the hottest month on record (*see chart*), according to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

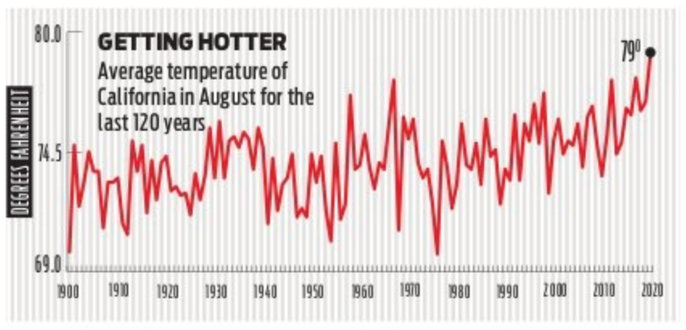
The state is a warning of other climate-fueled disasters to come in the US.

"It's shocking to see the impacts, but not scientifically surprising. This is in line with essentially every prediction for what could happen this year and the trends we're seeing over years and decades," Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at UCLA, told *CNN* last week.

"This is a climate damn emergency," California's Governor Newsom said in televised comments as he toured the damage in Butte County on Friday.

Huge wildfires are becoming more common, with the World Meteorological Organization saying the five years to 2019 were unprecedented for fires.

"The science is clear, and deadly signs like these are unmistakable -- climate change poses an imminent, existential threat to our way of life," said Joe Biden, the Democratic nominee who will face President Donald Trump at the polls on November 3.



Old couple find nothing but ashes of home upon return

Marcelino Maceda looks for items in the remains of his mobile home after a wildfire swept through the Recreational Vehicle park in Estacada, Oregon | AFP

ESTACADA

"THIS is just stuff. We're gonna move on from it," says Margi Wyatt, holding back tears as she stares at her burned-out mobile home destroyed by one of the fires raging through the US state of Oregon.

The 70-year-old fled 30 miles from her home to Estacada in Portland's southeast as the huge and still-uncontained Riverside Fire raced through.

The blaze devastated the mobile home site, located on a wooded hill next to a road. All the properties in Wyatt's row were destroyed -- but homes just ten yards away were left unscathed.

It is one of scores of infernos ravaging that have burnt through a record 5 million acres and left at least 27 dead.

With smoke still rising from the hill, she and her husband Marcelino Maceda have come back to sift through the remains and pick up anything that may have escaped the flames. But there's little left in the ashes. Among the belongings they find is a partially melted watch, a blackened bracelet and a ring.

"The police just told us to grab our things and go," Wyatt said as the flames neared. "I gathered what I could in 20 minutes -- cash, important papers, jewellery."

Everything else, she says, is in the blackened remains of her home, which they moved into just two years ago.

But Wyatt -- a retired caregiver -- said she was glad at least no-one was hurt, but adds: "I don't want to come back. These are plastic houses. Our next move is a stick house." *AFP*

IDEALISTIC

Yoga devotee's search engine uses clicks to feed the poor

SAN FRANCISCO

SEAN Kelly left the Silicon Valley startup world for a spiritual journey that led to a life filled with yoga on an island in Thailand.

But as a global pandemic disrupted the global economy, Kelly and two others created a search engine with the goal of raising funds to feed the hungry in Africa, Asia and anywhere else there is need.

Launched this month, Seva bills itself as the world's first independent, socially conscious search engine that lets people feed hungry children by browsing the internet.

"I think technology is one of the greatest enablers of both positive and negative forces," Kelly told AFP from Koh Pha Ngan during a call.

The Seva team relies on Bing to power searches behind the scenes at Sevasearch.org, or on mobile devices with its application.

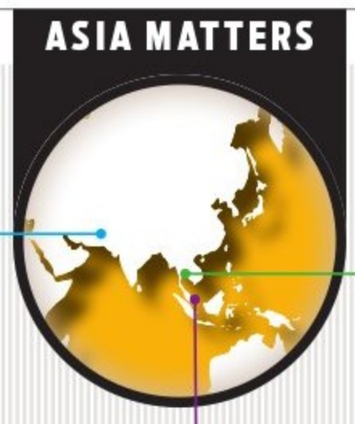
Revenue from ads linked to the searches generate funds which go to the World Food Programme and Project Healthy Children.

The site promises full transparency about its finances, and within a week had funded more than 169,000 meals for the charitable organisations.

"Unlike other search engines, we don't track your searches. We're really just here to feed people

As idealistic as Seva may be, it faces a challenge in an online search market dominated by Google, said Technalysis Research chief analyst Bob O'Donnell. Even privacy-focused DuckDuckGo has not managed to gain significant traction in the search market. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS



PAKISTAN

India-born Pakistani Shia scholar dies

India-born renowned Pakistani Shia scholar Allama Zameer Akhtar Naqvi has died in Karachi. He was 76. Naqvi, born in 1944 in Lucknow where he studied until graduation and moved to Karachi in 1967, breathed his last late on Saturday night, *Dawn* reported. Citing doctors at the Aga Khan University Hospital, the paper said he died due to a heart attack. Naqvi, a PhD holder from the University of Karachi, was known to have a deep knowledge of science, philosophy, literature, culture, journalism and Islamic history. He authored 28 books on many subjects, including Urdu ghazals and the battle of Karbala. He was also the editor of the Al Kalam magazine besides heading the Anees Academy.

SINGAPORE

8 out of 10 new Covid-19 cases came from India

Eight of the 10 imported Covid-19 cases reported in Singapore on Sunday came from India, the Health Ministry said. Two of those eight were Singaporeans and five were permanent residents who returned on Aug 30-31. The other was a short-term visit pass holder and a spouse of a Singaporean. The other two imported patients are work pass holders employed here who arrived here from Germany on Aug 30.

THAILAND

'Plane cafes' take off

With millions around the world stuck at home, "plane cafes" in Thailand are offering customers the chance to pretend they are in the sky -- and the idea seems to have taken off. On board a retired commercial airplane in Pattaya, coffee drinkers make themselves comfy on first-class-style seats and pose for photos. Boarding passes in hand, some "passengers" even opt for a tour of the cockpit. "With this cafe I can also mess around in the cockpit pretending to be the captain," 26-year-old Thipsuda Faksaithong said.

A retired Airbus 330 that has been turned into a cafe | AFP

Ex-PMs blast Boris' Brexit backsliding

LONDON

TWO former British prime ministers who played crucial roles in bringing peace to Northern Ireland joined forces Sunday to urge lawmakers to reject government plans to override the Brexit deal with the European Union, arguing that it imperils that peace and damages the UK's reputation.

In an article in the *Sunday Times*, John Major and Tony Blair slammed the current British government for "shaming" the country with legislation that, in places, goes against the very deal it signed to allow for the UK's smooth departure from the EU earlier this year.

Major, a Conservative prime minister from 1990 to 1997, and Blair, his Labour successor for a decade, said Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Internal Market Bill "questions the very integrity" of the UK

"This government's action is shaming itself and embarrassing our nation," they said.

Former British Prime Ministers Tony Blair (L) and John Major | AP

The planned legislation, which will be debated by British lawmakers this week, has led to a furious outcry within the EU as it would diminish the bloc's previously agreed oversight of trade between mainland Britain and Northern Ireland if a UK-EU trade agreement isn't secured.

The British government has admitted that the legislation would break international law, but argues that it's an insurance policy for that potential 'no-deal' scenario. Johnson has said the legislation is needed to end EU threats to impose a "blockade" in the Irish Sea that the prime minister asserted could "carve up our country."

Britain's Justice Secretary Robert Buckland told the BBC on Sunday that the legislation was a "break the glass in emergency provision," if needed, and that he would resign if he believed the rule of law was broken in an "unacceptable" way. "I don't believe we're going to get to that stage," Buckland said.

EU leaders have furiously rejected Johnson's charge that the bloc is planning a major disruption to normal trade between mainland Britain and Northern Ireland. *AP*

Mass arrests fail to deter Belarus oppn

MINSK

RIOT police in balaclavas harshly detained 250 demonstrators as tens of thousands of people gathered for an opposition protest on the eve of talks between President Alexander Lukashenko and his main ally, Russia's Vladimir Putin.

Masked agents in uniform and plain clothes snatched people from the streets as they assembled for the "March of Heroes" demonstration, often pushing or punching them, video posted on the Belarusian news site Tut.by showed.

"Some 250 people were detained in various districts of the capital," the interior ministry said in a statement, adding those detained were carrying flags and "offensive" placards.

Access to mobile internet was limited and central metro stations closed, with authorities moving police vans, military vehicles and barbed wire into the centre ahead of the protest. Despite the violent detentions, tens of thousands of protesters gathered in the city centre for a new massive march, an AFP correspondent said.

Opposition supporters rally on the streets of Minsk on Sunday | AFP

"I came out for freedom and I am going to protest until we win it through peaceful means," Oleg Zimin, a 60-year-old protester, told AFP.

He said he did not vote for Lukashenko. "He always lied to us," he said.

Belarusians have been demonstrating against Lukashenko's disputed re-election for a month, with over 100,000 people flooding the streets of Minsk for four straight weekends.

The new march came as Lukashenko's security forces have stepped up arrests of protesters and opposition figures who are still in Belarus. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Famous Israeli model sentenced over tax evasion

Tel Aviv: A court here on Sunday sentenced Israel's most famous model Bar Refaeli to nine months of community service and a large fine for tax evasion. Refaeli, who in the past dated Hollywood actor Leonardo DiCaprio, was convicted in July of giving false statements about her periods of overseas residence in order to evade Israeli taxes. The 35-year-old, a mother of three, was in court wearing a face mask to hear her sentence. She was fined $721,000 and ordered to pay arrears, according to the decision issued by the court. Refaeli's service will be at a facility aiding people with severe physical and mental disabilities, beginning on September 21.

Rajapaksas' party divided over constitutional changes

COLOMBO

THE Sri Lankan government's proposed 20th Constitution Amendment has faced internal resistance from within the ruling SLPP parliamentary group members itself, ahead of its inclusion in Parliament's order paper, party members said.

The government on September 2 gazetted the 20th Constitution Amendment draft, the new proposed legislation that would replace the 19th Amendment introduced in 2015 that curtailed the powers of the President and strengthened the role of Parliament.

The 20th Amendment proposes to restore full legal immunity to the President, removing the provisions made in the 19A to take legal action against the President.

The office of PM Mahinda Rajapaksa in a statement on Saturday night said that a nine-member ministerial committee has been appointed to review the 20A in its present form and, if needed, a fresh gazette will be issued.

Ever since the government gazetted the 20A, some of the ruling SLPP's own parliamentarians and the party's allies have been publicly expressing unhappiness over its certain provisions.

If the 20A is implemented in its present form, PM Mahinda Rajapaksa will be the hardest-hit as his current powers as the premier would be diminished, with his younger brother and the President, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, assuming full executive power, they said.

Moreover, Mahinda, who was a two-time president, will not be able to contest for the presidential election again as the two term bar has been retained in the 20A draft, they said. *PTI*

₹2.3L cr GST shortfall is currently facing the Centre and state governments after the pandemic brought tax collections crashing down

Mutual funds have many ways to comply with new asset rules: Sebi

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AFTER having set the cat among the pigeons last week by introducing new asset allocation norms for multi-cap mutual funds, market regulator Securities and Exchanges Board of India (SEBI) clarified on Sunday that impacted funds have a wide variety of options in front of them when it comes to complying with the new regulations.

On Friday, SEBI had issued a circular that said that multi-cap funds will have to mandatorily invest a minimum of 25 per cent of their assets in large, mid and small cap stocks each. The regulator said it had taken the measure to ensure that multi-cap funds stuck to True to Label and Appropriate Benchmarking principles. Many multi-cap funds had ended up with a disproportionately large exposure to large cap stocks (as high as 80 per cent of total assets in some cases), and the regulator's move is aimed at fixing this anamoly, analysts noted.

However, the circular had raised the bogeyman of re-balancing the portfolios of these funds, with several brokerages and analysts noting that this would lead to a sharp surge in investment into small and mid-cap stocks, which would help investors who have held such stocks from as early as 2017 waiting for price discovery. Others had warned that the rule change would just lead to a rush of money into stocks which may not be able to absorb the inflows leading to market instability.

The regulator put those concerns to rest on Sunday by pointing out that funds which are being impacted by the rule change have a rather wide variety of options in front of them when it comes to complying with the new rules.

"SEBI would like to clarify that Mutual Funds have many options... Apart from rebalancing their portfolio in the Multi Cap schemes, they could inter-alia facilitate switch to other schemes by unitholders, merge their Multi-Cap scheme with their Large Cap scheme or convert their Multi Cap scheme to another scheme category, for instance Large-cum-Mid Cap scheme," the regulator said. It added that it has allowed until January 31, 2021 for the funds to comply with the norms. According to brokerages, this is likely to stave off the predicted rush to load up on smaller stocks to a certain extent.

Apart from rebalancing portfolio in Multi Cap schemes, they could facilitate a switch to other schemes by unitholders, merge Multi-Cap with Large Cap scheme, or convert to another scheme category

Securities and Exchanges Board of India

Equity investing is not for the faint-hearted and 2020 showed us why. Market volatility is unnerving when life savings are at stake

ROBINHOOD INVESTING IS LIKELY JUST A FAD

TAPAS RANJAN

24 lakh new demat accounts were opened by new retail stock market investors during the quarter ended June 30, 2020. Analysts say there has been a spurt in young people investing in equities

RAJAS KELKAR

IN a span of three months, Indian brokerages have added over 24 lakh new demat account holders in the quarter to June 2020. That is like 10 per cent of the total account holders. A plunge in March followed by a steady recovery has created a volatile situation in the financial markets. That has lured many youngsters looking to dabble in the stock market. At the same time, many existing investors, who barely traded, have now started to.

Many youngsters are getting attracted to the volatility in the markets and looking to invest. ICICI Securities, one of the largest retail brokers in India, told analysts in a post-quarterly result conference call last month that it managed to increase market share to 10.7 per cent during the lock-down.

"Retail participation saw a record high, many inactive clients entered into the market, and there was a sharp rise in the new client in the industry," the management told analysts. That is not just an India-centric phenomenon.

Many young people in the US are actively trading too. A lot of them are indulging in something some people are calling 'Robinhood' investing. In the United States, many discount brokerages are allowing individuals to own a fraction of one share of a company. A lot of start-ups are encouraging people to do so. There is a fintech company that runs an app by the name. Many such firms are mushrooming that offer ownership in tiny bits. Owning fractional shares is catching up among young people.

Fractional investing is owning a small portion of the high-value stock. So, if the value of the Apple shares is $ 400, you can hold up to one-millionth of a share. The discount brokerage ensures you get all benefits associated with the fraction ownership you have. So, if you buy Apple shares worth $100 and Apple decides to pay $10 dividend, you will get the amount proportionate to that ownership.

ICICI Securities has recently started allowing investors to buy US equities and ETFs. Upstox, a retail brokerage, has a product listed that allows Indian investors to own fractional shares in the US or exchange-traded funds.

For young people, owning small portions of a high-value share is a good idea. The loss would also be limited to that extent. However, stock picking is still a complicated concept. As an individual, you do not have any access to high-density data that is used by investing programmes or fund managers to pick the right time to invest in a stock.

The presence of such products also means you need a financial advisor even more than ever. You must consult and discuss the appropriate investment approach based on your future income and risk profile.

Your investments should be directly linked to your financial goals. As a youngster, if you indulge in stock market trading without understanding the fundamentals of a business or on gossip, you will encounter a loss. You may withstand a few minor losses in the early stage of investing.

However, at some stage, you may stop tolerating them. Of the over two crore holders of demat accounts, 80 per cent barely traded. Equity investing is not for the faint-hearted. The year 2020 clearly showed us the reason for that view. The volatility and the gyrations daily can unnerve you if your life savings are at stake. The 'lure of more' attracts many to the stock market. Everyone wants to get rich quick.

Stock markets have run up significantly around the world over the past month. Entering into normal or fractional investing is fraught with risks. New technology can easily change the way an asset is owned. For example, blockchain technology can in the future allow you to own a tiny portion of investment like property, precious metal or art, besides equity. Fractional or full ownership of equity makes sense if you are a buy or hold investor. Investing regularly in quality shares directly or through mutual or exchange-traded funds is the best way to generate a steady return. It does not matter whether you own a fraction of a share or fully paid-up ones.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

MONEY-WISE

Understanding Risk is vital for retirement plans

YOU are a young 35-year-old couple and are saving for multiple goals—being debt free, buying a bigger house, children's education, being a reserve in case either parents run out of money, etc. You sit down as a couple and are reviewing your portfolio, what do you exactly do? Let me guess:

- You see how your portfolio is doing
- You even compare it to a big broad index
- You even go to a couple of websites and see whether your fund is rated well
- If you have an equity portfolio you are very happy that ALL your shares have gone up

Right? Well most people do this. But, what have you missed out?

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹ 40 a day'

You have missed out the risks in your portfolio. If all your funds and all your equities have gone up at the same time, remember at some point in time, they could all be in the red! All your shares or funds moving in the same direction is a potential sign you have not paid enough attention to diversification.

Diversification is not just about having more than one share—in fact having one well diversified fund is enough when your SIP amounts are small. Diversification is about having many shares, across multiple sectors, management groups, geographies, countries, currencies, industries, etc. In such a scenario if your full portfolio rises simultaneously, this suggests they are all responding to the same key factors and drivers. That is RISKY INVESTMENT STRATEGY.

A well-diversified portfolio will spread out investments across categories that respond differently to different factors and drivers. For example, if you owned ONGC, Selan, HOEL, HPCL, and Indigo—see how each one will react to oil price hike (or fall).

Many investors think owning more than one share is diversification. This is only partially true. Owning HPCL and BPCL is hardly any diversification. Owning EID PARRY gives you a flavor of fertilisers because it is the holding company for Coromandel International, etc, etc... Owning 2 companies in the same industry diversifies only one type of uncertainty: company-specific risk. So, if you held Satyam, Infosys, and Wipro, you were saved from the risk of owning only Satyam! While it could help protect you from the risk of having all your money concentrated in a Satyam-like house of cards, it won't protect you from higher-level concerns.

How much do you withdraw annually, and could you cut it if you had to?

This might seem like a too early to answer and far away question, because not many people think of withdrawals as a risk. Check out your parent's portfolio if they are living off their savings. It is a real crucial consideration in retirement planning—particularly for investors early in retirement. Assuming that your parents are 65 years of age, they must be grappling with this. The ONLY PURPOSE of a retirement portfolio is to fund the years when you aren't working. The biggest risk you face during that time is depleting your assets while you still need them. And, annual withdrawals typically put the greatest strain on your portfolio during retirement. Obvious, is it not? Well not too many folks think like that! Start learning about it NOW. Not learning is high risk.

EXPRESS READ

Need 25% A-D duty on optical fibre: ICEA

New Delhi: The India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) has asked the government to increase anti-dumping duty on optical fibre to 25 per cent, especially on cheap imports coming from China. In a letter to Revenue and Commerce Secretaries, ICEA said China has levied 30% ADD on Indian optical fibre.

FPIs turn net sellers in Sept, pull out ₹2K cr

New Delhi: Foreign portfolio investors (FPI) turned net sellers in Indian markets by pulling out ₹2,038 crore so far in September as participants turned cautious. A net ₹3,510 crore was withdrawn from equities, while ₹1,472 crore was pumped into debts by FPIs between September 1-11.

IRDAI proposes GST cut on health, life insurance premiums

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THOSE paying insurance premiums may soon see a reduction in their costs across the life and health categories with the sector regulator reportedly proposing a cut in tax rates.

According to officials, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has proposed to the Union Ministry of Finance that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on insurance premium payments be reduced from 18 per cent to 5 per cent. This has been a request that has been repeatedly set forth by the industry, whose representatives note that insurance penetration is still very low in the Indian market and lowering the costs associated with insurance products would significantly boost adoption.

The time is also ripe for such a boost, they add, noting that the coronavirus pandemic has resulted in a sharp rise in the number of people picking up insurance policies—despite the hassles posed by the lockdown—and a rate cut would go a long way in adding to the trend. However, any decision on GST rate cuts are only taken at the GST Council, which is a Centre-States federal decision making body which decides on how to revise the tax rate structure. The Council is next set to meet on September 19, but a tax cut in the current scenario may be a tough call to make for the entity. Multiple lockdowns and rising infections have eroded the government's tax revenues to a large extent, both at the Central and state levels.

With the government staring at a huge tax shortfall and having already asked states to borrow on the market to make up for the gap in compensation cess collections, a tax cut may be an unlikely decision at the next meeting.

According to officials, the IRDAI's proposal is not the first time it has made such a request. The organisation has pitched for a reduction in tax rates to 5 per cent from the current 18 per cent several times over the past few years. A proposal is accepted by the GST Council only after the nominated fitment committee takes it up, conducts detailed consultations and analyses, and submits its recommendations.

REPEATED SUGGESTION

- Both IRDAI and the industry have sought tax cuts earlier
- While the Council is to meet on September 19, a tax cut may be a tough ask due to the tax shortfall

11% health insurance claims during Apr-Aug triggered by Covid: Survey

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

HEALTH insurance claims arising from Covid-19 infections and associated treatment costs stood at as much as 11 per cent of all health insurance claims raised during the first five months of the current fiscal year, said a research survey conducted by financial services marketplace Policybazaar.com.

According to the study, increasing incidence of coronavirus cases and the rising cost of treatment have also been promoting more people to opt for health insurance. The marketplace accounts for about 10 per cent of India's retail health insurance market and said the data analysed was for the period between April 1 to August 31.

"As per Policybazaar data, Covid claims are only 11 per cent out of overall claims. The rest 89 per cent are of other major illnesses...," it said, adding that the pandemic has "triggered everyone to prioritise health insurance like never before, not only for protection against a pandemic but also against any bigger events or illnesses like lifestyle diseases".

The survey also noted that the cost of treatment may go up to more than ₹10 lakh in case of prolonged hospitalisation. A comprehensive health insurance policy with ₹10 lakh sum insured for a 32-year-old costs anywhere between ₹7,000–9,000 annually, it pointed out.

"As all the health insurance policies are being sold online in the last three months, the demand for 1 crore (sum assured) grew from 3 per cent to 40 per cent. Amidst the Covid scare, most people are looking at protecting themselves and their families with a whole some plan," said Amit Chhabra, Head-Health Insurance, Policybazaar.com.

A comprehensive plan available in the market with a ₹1 crore sum insured for a 32-year-old will cost somewhere around ₹13,000-15,000 annually, the survey noted. The health insurance business for the company also grew rapidly, by 130 per cent during July and 90 per cent during the April-June quarter. The high cost of hospitalisation is also due to the age distribution of people with serious Covid infections, predominantly older people, where co-morbidities increase costs.

COSTLY TREATMENT

The survey noted that treatment cost may go up to more than ₹10 lakh in case of prolonged hospitalisation, which has been seen in mostly older patients

OUTLOOK

Stock markets to take cue from global factors

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

MARKET investors are likely to look towards developments in the geopolitical sphere to drive their equity transactions over the coming week, according to analysts from Indian brokerages. Several factors, such as changes in the India-China border tensions, are likely to be the driving force behind both Indian benchmark stock indices—BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty.

Both benchmarks saw a good recovery last week after a correction of over 2.5 per cent in the previous week. The BSE Sensex rose 497.37 points or 1.30 per cent, while the NSE Nifty gained 130.60 points or 1.15 per cent during the trading week ended September 11.

However, the past week's rally had been disproportionately driven by the massive rise in heavyweight Reliance Industries Ltd., which announced a large investment into its retail ventures.

Going forward, however, the India-China row is likely to be the primary driving force. "With the lack of any official statements from the high level talks to defuse border tensions, investors need to be prepared for slow progress in this regard. As such, this uncertainty will keep worrying the markets for the short term," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

Both India and China had last week agreed on a five-point plan to resolve the border tensions in eastern Ladakh. Whether there is any real disengagement of forces on the LAC will be keenly watched.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Current Price ₹2,012.2

Target Price ₹2,420

IPCA LABS

Phenomenal performance led by: HCQSled opportunity; an improving outlook/reduced opex for Domestic Formulations (DF); and lower raw material cost. We expect earnings CAGR of 31% (FY20–22), supported by sales CAGR of 20% in International Generics and 22% in API, outperformance by DF segment.

—Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *The New Indian Express*.

F1: Hamilton records 90th career victory

Lewis Hamilton won a chaotic, crash-littered Tuscan Grand Prix on Sunday, extending his lead at the top of the F1 drivers' championship. Hamilton finished ahead of his Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas to claim his 90th F1 victory, moving the Briton to within one win of equalling Michael Schumacher's all-time record.

OSAKA MAKES MAJOR STATEMENT

From spreading awareness on unlawful killings and going on to win US Open, World No 9 woman of the hour

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@Chennai

ON the first day of the US Open, Naomi Osaka came on to court wearing a face mask with the name Breonna Taylor written across it. Taylor was an African-American nurse living in Kentucky when police raided her apartment and killed her in March. The 26-year-old had become the latest victim in a series of unlawful killings carried out by US police officials. The underlying implication was hard to miss — racial injustice.

Minutes after her opening match against compatriot Misaki Doi, Osaka said she wanted to memorialise Taylor. "I just want to spread awareness," she explained. "I'm aware that tennis is watched all over the world, and maybe there is someone that doesn't know Breonna Taylor's story. Maybe they'll Google it or something. For me, just spreading awareness. I feel like the more people know the story...

"I have seven (masks) and it's quite sad that seven is not enough for the amount of names. Hopefully I'll get to the finals and you'll see all of them." The Japanese athlete was essentially tying what she was doing off court to her on court success.

This is the kind of pressure that athletes usually try to avoid. Even if this has been a particularly strong year for athlete activism, most are still governed by tunnel vision. In the case of tennis players, that pertains to a relentless pursuit of improving serves, working on positioning and movement on the court, striving for that extra 1% over opponents et. al. They usually don't prefer to talk about anything other than the game during a major tournament because they just want to be in the zone.

Naomi Osaka celebrates after beating Victoria Azarenka in the final | AFP

Not the 22-year-old though. In a year that's seen her attend rallies for the cause of black people worldwide, she did not let those lofty self imposed ideals weigh her down. Rather, she used it as a motivational tool.

On Sunday night at the cavernous Arthur Ashe stadium, she won her third Major, besting Victoria Azarenka 1-6, 6-3, 6-3. After the match, she said: "It made me (wearing masks) stronger, because I had more desire to win, because I want to show more names, and I want people to talk about it more."

The seventh and final name was Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old boy. He was having a replica toy gun with him when a law enforcement official shot and killed him in Cleveland in 2014.

He had met the same fate as six others — Taylor, Trayvon Martin, George Floyd, Philando Castile, Elijah McClain and Ahmaud Arbery. Unlawfully killed at the hands of law enforcement officials. When asked what was the message she had wished to convey through the masks, she said: "Well, what was the message that you got... I feel like the point is to make people start talking..." This victory of hers has perhaps changed the contours of what's possible for an active sportsperson to do, including how to effectively use a platform to spread light on an important issue.

IPL 13 : 5 DAYS TO GO

KINGS XI PUNJAB

PAST

Perennial underachievers. Eleven different players have captained them so far. There have been four instances where two captains were tried during the course of the edition.

PRESENT

They are once again trying their luck with a new captain in KL Rahul after Ravichandran Ashwin moved to Delhi Capitals. Have made wholesale changes to their support staff which is headed by Anil Kumble.

TEAM TALK

From a batting perspective, they have a good blend of Indian players – experienced and youth. Chris Gayle, Rahul, Mayank Agarwal, Karun Nair and Glenn Maxwell will form the core of their batting which also includes Sarfaraz Khan, Mandeep Singh and Deepak Hooda. Throw in all-rounders Krishnappa Gowtham, Nicholas Pooran and James Neesham and bowlers Mohammed Shami, Sheldon Cottrell, Chris Jordan, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Jagadeesha Suchith & Co, they have their bases covered in bowling too.

STAR WATCH

Rahul, who else? Will be interesting to see how he juggles his role as captain, opener and wicketkeeper. In Pooran, he has an option to handover keeping gloves.

WHAT TO EXPECT? CAN CHALLENGE FOR PLAY-OFFS.

'08: Semifinalists, **'09:** 5th, **'10:** 8th, **'11:** 5th*, **'12:** 6th*, **'13:** 6th*, **'14:** Runners-up, **'15:** 8th, **'16:** 8th, **'17:** 5th, **'18:** 7th, **'19:** 6th. **'11:** 10 teams, 2012 & **'13:** 9 teams.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

PAST

The Tottenham Hotspurs of IPL. Not the most glamorous of sides, but have punched above their weight on multiple occasions. Lack of a top-rated Indian player is one major drawback.

PRESENT

With Ajinkya Rahane moving to Delhi Capitals, Steve Smith will lead the side coached by Australia's Andrew McDonald and has Amol Muzumdar and Sairaj Bahutle as batting and spin bowling coaches.

TEAM TALK

Have built their squad around their overseas stars which includes Smith, Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes and Jofra Archer. Though they have four match-winners in the side, Royals have struggled when it comes to performances from local players. Sanju Samson and Jaydev Unadkat will be sure starters, but they will need others to chip in. Putting Krishnappa Gowtham in the auction pool did surprise many, but they seem to have addressed the issue of not having experienced Indians by bringing in Robin Uthappa.

STAR WATCH

Stokes, undoubtedly. The all-rounder, apart from bringing stability to their line-up will their go-to-man with the bat and ball. A match-winner any side will be envy of.

WHAT TO EXPECT? A ROLLER COASTER RIDE.

'08: Champions, **'09:** 6th, **'10:** 7th **'11:** 6th, **'12:** 7th, **'13:** Play-offs, **'14:** 5th, **'15:** Play-offs, **'18:** Play-offs, **'19:** 7th, **'11:** 10 teams, 2012 & **'13:** 9 teams.

EXPRESS READ

Chennaiyin in rope in two defenders

CHENNAI: Two-time champions Chennaiyin FC on Sunday announced the signing of defenders Lalchhuanmawia Fanai and Reagan Singh ahead of the ISL season which is scheduled to begin in November. Fanai, and Reagan have joined Chennaiyin on free transfers.

Atletico coach Simeone tests Covid positive

MADRID: Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone has tested positive for the coronavirus. The Argentine wasn't showing any symptoms and was in isolation, the club said on Saturday. Simeone and the rest of the team were tested on Friday ahead of a friendly on Tuesday.

Chess Players Forum seeks Olympiad reward

CHENNAI: Chess Players Forum, an association of Indian chess players, has written to Union sports minister Kiren Rijiju, urging him to reward the Indian team which finished joint first in the Online Chess Olympiad with Russia. The letter also mentions that chess players have been overlooked while selecting athletes for the national sports awards.

Saina concerned, but visa formalities on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

SAINA Nehwal has voiced her concerns over the conduct of BWF Thomas and Uber Cup Finals in Denmark, next month.

On Sunday, the London Olympics bronze medallist, who's currently preparing for the event in Hyderabad, questioned if it will be safe for the Badminton World Federation (BWF) to go ahead with the event (October 3-11) in times of pandemic. "7 countries have withdrawn from tournament cause of the pandemic...Is it safe enough to conduct this

tournament during this time ??... (Thomas and Uber Cup 2020) #coronavirus," Saina posted on Twitter.

Though Saina's concerns have been felt by many in the sport, it is understood she is set to go if the team goes.

The Badminton Association of India apparently had consulted all players on their availability before naming team.

On Saturday, BWF confirmed that Korea and Indonesia will give the tournament a miss, joining Australia, Chinese Taipei and Thailand in the list of non-goers.

Aware of the developments surrounding the event, one of the shuttlers — who's part of the camp in Hyderabad — said that everyone has been focussed on training and said that they are in the process of filling out visa application form for the Denmark trip.

BOOK REVIEW

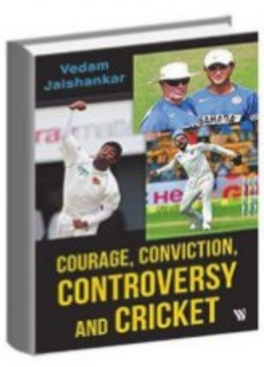
Curious tales of Gentleman's Game, personally told

VENKATA KRISHNA B

Cricket and controversy have been inseparable twins. The Gentleman's Game has seen many instances of players, umpires, administrators and fans crossing the line, often making headlines. In his new book Courage, Conviction, Controversy and Cricket, Vedam Jaishankar puts together stories, which take the reader back to some of these incidents that are still talked about.

The chapter called Controversy begins with Bodyline, cricket's first tryst with the C word. It ends with the Ravichandran Ashwin and mankading incident in the Indian Premier League. Courage talks about the heroic tales of BS Chandrasekhar - who overcame a withered arm to become a giant of leg-spin - Tiger Pataudi's daring career after losing one eye to an accident, Malcolm Marshall's 'single-handed' demolition of England, Anil Kumble bowling with a broken jaw to Yuvaj Singh's battle with cancer.

Conviction deals with Gundappa Viswanath's decision to recall Bob Taylor, who was given out mistakenly by the umpire in the Golden Jubilee Test in Mumbai, Rahul Dravid's declaration in Multan with Sachin Tendulkar unbeaten on 194, the run out incident involving Ian Bell against India, Daniel Vettori's spirit of cricket moment to Virat Kohli's decision to continue playing in the third Test of the 2018 tour in Johannesburg, on a dangerous pitch and emerging triumphant.



The book, which starts with a foreword from Ravi Shastri, gets down to business straightaway. Though most of the incidents will sound familiar to avid cricket followers, the stories are short and crisp. There are tales dating back a few decades, of an umpire getting kidnapped and assaulted by players in Peshawar and West Indies pacer Roy 'Fiery' Gichrist being thrown out of a tour of India.

Mention of Pakistan comes soon, thanks to umpire Shakoor Rana. The first big controversy involving players from Pakistan in the book is the Asif Iqbal incident at Eden Gardens in 1979-80, when the visiting captain picked up the coin before anyone could see it after the toss and conceded India had won it. It led to ICC's anti-corruption unit filing a report. Incidents of Navjot Sidhu flying back in the middle of the England tour in 1996, the spat between Greg Chappell and Sourav Ganguly find mention. The ball-tampering row involving Sachin Tendulkar and what happened in the board room, the Kerry Packer evolution all find space in this comprehensive compilation.

As Shastri mentions, this isn't a book where the author has an intention to sensationalise. He has gone by his research and what he has heard from those involved. One doesn't have to worry about missing a chapter, as you can start reading from anywhere. A former journalist, Jaishankar has been able to lend a personal touch to these tales, thanks to his proximity with many of the characters. This gives his work a first-hand feel.

Courage, Conviction, Controversy and Cricket; Westland Sport; available in bookstores and on Amazon.in; ₹699

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Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. **Regional Office:** Divyashree Chambers, #11, O'Shaughnessy Road, 5th Floor, "A" Wing, Off Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru-560025.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's,Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as Non performing Asset, whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand notice calling upon the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/Mortgagors as mentioned in column NO.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs./ as on
1	1. Mr. Syedabubakar.M 2. Mrs. Mujeeba Banu 3. Mr. Zakir Hussain Saleem	Loan Account No. 30258310000835 Loan Amount: Rs.6,00,000/-	SCHEDULE-II - DETAILS OF SECURED ASSETS SCHEDULE-A - DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres and 18 Guntas including the kharab land in Sy.No.39/1, 39/2, 40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibelehobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural Taluk Bangalore **and bounded on the North by:** Maya Sandra Gadi, **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41, **East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road. SCHEDULE-'B' PROPERTY - PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED: The undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. SCHEDULE-'C' - DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT: Residential Apartment Bearing No.A-109, Khata No-494, Assessment No.T-6-A-109 First floor of Tower-06, consists of One Hall, One Bed Rood, Kitchen, Bathroom and a balcony, in the residential Apartment Complex known as **"Janaadhar Shubha"** constructed on the Schedule-"A" Property having a super built up area of 400 square feet with vitrified flooring and on the proportionate share in the common areas, Such as passages, stairs, ducts well and/or rooms water, drainage and/ or electrical conduit/s and/or other areas used in common with the the purchasers of other Apartments. **And is bounded on: East by:** A-104, **West by:** Corridor, **North by:** Open Space, **South by:** A-110.	Date of NPA: 08/06/2015 Demand Notice Date: 29/08/2020	Rs. 5,68,419/- (Rupees Five lakhs sixty eight thousand four hundred and nineteen only) as on 05-08-2020
2	1. Mr. Uthrahari 2. Mrs. Satheswari 3. Mrs. Shivakumari	Loan Account No. 30258310000809 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	SCHEDULE-II - DETAILS OF SECURED ASSETS SCHEDULE-A - DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres and 18 Guntas including the kharab land in Sy.No.39/1, 39/2, 40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibelehobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural Taluk Bangalore **and bounded on the: North by:** Maya Sandra Gadi, **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41, **East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road. SCHEDULE-'B 'PROPERTY - PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED: The undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. SCHEDULE-'C' - DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT: Residential Apartment Bearing No.A-211, Second Floor of Tower-07, consists of One Hall, One Bed Rood, Kitchen, Bathroom and a balcony, in the residential Apartment Complex known as **"Janaadhar Shubha"** constructed on the Schedule-"A" Property having a super built up area of 400 square feet with vitrified flooring and on the proportionate share in the common areas, Such as passages, stairs, ducts well and/or rooms water, drainage and/ or electrical conduit/s and/or other areas used in common with the the purchasers of other Apartments.	Date of NPA: 09/12/2015 Demand Notice Date: 29/08/2020	Rs. 7,13,790/- (Rupees Seven lakhs thirteen thousand seven hundred and ninety only) as on 05-08-2020
3	1. Mr. Kiran Kumar. R 2. Mrs. Poovitha 3. Mr. Anthuraj.C	Loan Account No. 30258300000312 Loan Amount: Rs.5,44,000/-	SCHEDULE-II - DETAILS OF SECURED ASSETS SCHEDULE-A - DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres and 18 Guntas including the kharab land in Sy.No.39/1,39/2,40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibelehobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural Taluk Bangalore **and bounded on the North by:** Maya Sandra Gadi, **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41, **East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road SCHEDULE-'B 'PROPERTY - PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED: The undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. SCHEDULE-'C' - DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT: Residential Apartment Bearing No.B-203, Second Floor of Tower-01, consists of One Hall, One Bed Rood, Kitchen, Bathroom and a balcony, in the residential Apartment Complex known as **"Janaadhar Shubha"** constructed on the Schedule-"A" Property having a super built up area of 400 square feet with vitrified flooring and on the proportionate share in the common areas, Such as passages, stairs, ducts well and/or rooms water, drainage and/ or electrical conduit/s and/or other areas used in common with the the purchasers of other Apartments.	Date of NPA: 08/06/2016 Demand Notice Date: 29/08/2020	Rs.7,52,553/- (Rupees Seven lakhs fifty two thousand five hundred and fifty three only) as on 05-08-2020
4	1. Mr. Kiran kumar Ramamurthy 2. Mrs. Lakshmi Devi 3. Mr. Eshwar	Loan Account No. 30258310000173 Loan Amount: Rs.6,56,000/-	SCHEDULE-II - DETAILS OF SECURED ASSETS SCHEDULE-A - DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres and 18 Guntas including the kharab land in Sy.No.39/1,39/2,40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibelehobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural Taluk Bangalore **and bounded on the North by:** Maya Sandra Gadi, **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41, **East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road. SCHEDULE-'B 'PROPERTY - PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED: The undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. SCHEDULE-'C' - DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT: Residential Apartment Bearing No.A-211, Second Floor of Tower-07, consists of One Hall, One Bed Rood, Kitchen, Bathroom and a balcony, in the residential Apartment Complex known as **"Janaadhar Shubha"** constructed on the Schedule-"A" Property having a super built up area of 400 square feet with vitrified flooring and on the proportionate share in the common areas, Such as passages, stairs, ducts well and/or rooms water, drainage and/ or electrical conduit/s and/or other areas used in common with the the purchasers of other Apartments.	Date of NPA: 09/07/2016 Demand Notice Date: 29/08/2020	Rs.9,19,331/- (Rupees Nine lakhs nineteen thousand three hundred and thirty one only) as on 05-08-2020
5	1. Mr. Shivakumar 2. Mrs. Usharani 3. Mary Stella Rani	Loan Account No. 30258310000058 Loan Amount: Rs.5,63,000/-	SCHEDULE-II - DETAILS OF SECURED ASSETS SCHEDULE-A - DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 acres and 18 Guntas including the kharab land in Sy.No.39/1,39/2,40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medehalli, Attibelehobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural Taluk Bangalore **and bounded on the North by:** Maya Sandra Gadi, **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41, **East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road. SCHEDULE-'B 'PROPERTY - PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED: The undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. SCHEDULE-'C' - DESCRIPTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNIT: Residential Apartment Bearing No.B-112, First Floor of Tower-08, consists of One Hall, One Bed Rood, Kitchen, Bathroom and a balcony, in the residential Apartment Complex known as **"Janaadhar Shubha"** constructed on the Schedule-"A" Property having a super built up area of 400 square feet with vitrified flooring and on the proportionate share in the common areas, such as passages, stairs, ducts well and/or rooms water, drainage and/ or electrical conduit/s and/or other areas used in common with the the purchasers of other Apartments.	Date of NPA: 08/08/2016 Demand Notice Date: 29/08/2020	Rs.6,69,401/- (Rupees Six lakhs sixty nine thousand four hundred and one only) as on 05-08-2020

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/Co-Borrower within 60 days of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No.6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Jana Small Finance Bank Limited against the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

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14.09.2020
MONDAY

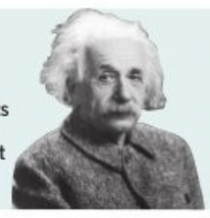
DAY'S DIARY

Theory proved

On this day in 2015, for the first time, scientists observed gravitational wave signals confirming Einstein's theory in relation to black holes

CREATING WAVES

The observation provides the first direct evidence that black holes merge. Scientists detected gravitational waves in the fabric of space-time nearly 100 years after Albert Einstein predicted their existence



COLLIDING BLACK HOLES

On February 11, 2016, the LIGO Scientific Collaboration and Virgo Collaboration announced the first confirmed existence of gravitational waves from colliding black holes

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION

Physicists at the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune, an autonomous institution of the University Grants Commission, India, made significant contributions to this discovery

Krishna to play a steward in Nagashekar's next

PG 4

BACK TO SCHOOL?

The govt decision to allow reopening of schools for senior students has sprouted mixed reactions, with some schools gearing up to welcome students again, while parents choose to stay on the side of caution

• **Simran Ahuja**

After many months of online classes, Disha Panda has finally found herself getting excited for school again. Though her school has not yet announced its decision about the reopening for older students, Panda is looking forward to getting a chance to be back on premises. This comes in the wake of the central government issuing orders about the partial reopening of schools (on a voluntary basis) for students of Class 9 to 12, if they wish to seek guidance from teachers.

"This is my last year in school and I want to get back to campus. I know that going daily is not possible due to the rising Covid-positive cases, but I'm looking forward to going at least for a few days," says the Class 12 student of Delhi Public School North. But there's more than nostalgia riding behind this wish. Online classes have caused students to lose focus and for a Commerce student like Panda, face-to-face sessions will help with subjects like Math and Accountancy. "We have exams coming up and with these subjects, the more you solve sums, more doubts crop up. And in person, teachers have a better idea about whether a student has understood the concept or not," she explains.

Schools are gearing up to welcome higher grade students on campus again. P Neetha Sathe, managing trustee, New Pratham Public School, says teachers will be on campus on rotational basis, with different time slots allotted to students to avoid large numbers. "They will also have to get a letter of approval from their parents and arrive 30 minutes before their session so that we can carry out measures of sanitisation and thermal scanning," says Sathe, adding that students will be allowed to be in campus for up to two hours.

At Stonehill International School, the groups cannot exceed 10 and pathways (entrances, corridors, and staircases) have been divided into two with floor markers for walking in a one-way system. Face masks are mandatory and handwashing stations have been set up around the school. "There are many breaks between the online classes. For students who want to have a one-on-one discussion with the teacher at the school, appointments will be given between the online sessions," says Brian Brumsickle, the head of the school.

Parents, however, seem to be putting their faith in the online system as they prioritise the safety of children. *CE* spoke to a few parents of students of Vidya Niketan and Vidyashilp Academy, and they said they haven't yet received any intimation about reopening on Sept. 21. Shilpa Spoorthy, whose son is in Class 9, says some teachers have created WhatsApp groups with the students to interact better about the syllabus. "So far my son hasn't felt the need to meet his teachers. I'm concerned about him going to school so if the need arises, I'd even be okay to sit with the teacher myself to understand a concept and explain it to my son," she says, adding that teachers are even ready to take one-on-one online classes if a child needs it. Another parent, Dr Nishita Shetty Rao, shares that she would be okay with her son going to school only if the sessions are not held in groups. "But I don't think it will come to that since he is managing fine with online classes," she adds.

Shilpa Spoorthy

Students will have to get a letter of approval from their parents and arrive 30 minutes before their session so that we can carry out sanitisation measures

—**P Neetha Sathe,** managing trustee, New Pratham Public School

Illustration: TAPAS RANJAN

'Thackeray was my most challenging role'

• **Express Features**

The last decade can be said to belong to Nawazuddin Siddiqui. The actor, who broke out with his performance as a police officer in *Kahaani*, and then conquered the heartland with *Gangs of Wasseypur*, has emerged as one of the finest performers in the country. Eight of his films have been screened at the Cannes Film Festival. In 2018, his debut Netflix series, *Sacred Games*, catapulted him to international stardom. Even during the lockdown, while stars are starved for releases, Nawaz has had them coming. Yet, none of this has been easy. In the latest edition of Time Pass, a series of webinars organised by The New Indian Express group, Nawaz sat down with senior journalist Kaveree Bamzai to discuss his 21-year-long journey.

"I've faced many disappointments in life," Nawaz shared. "Rejections would hurt. Even more stressful was the question of survival. Thankfully, I had many friends who helped me get by. I would eat at one friend's house and bathe at another's. That's how I managed." One companion during this phase was actor-comedian Rajpal Yadav. "Rajpal had done movies like *Jungle* (2000) by then and was earning well. I remember he helped me a lot. He also introduced me to Anurag Kashyap."

With his leading turns in *Gangs of Wasseypur, Sacred Games* and the recent *Raat Akeli Hai*, Nawaz has shattered the myth of 'the chocolate boy' hero. *Raat Akeli Hai* even has a scene that has him throwing away a fairness cream product. Nawaz feels the obsession over looks is a permanent folly in Bollywood. "In the 2000s, a lot of new directors emerged who began casting us in their films. However, the formulaic cinema in India hasn't changed. It still needs a good-looking boy, a good-looking girl, five songs and a happy ending. The box-office performance of these movies is always high. Yes, good films do come but they hardly get watched in theatres."

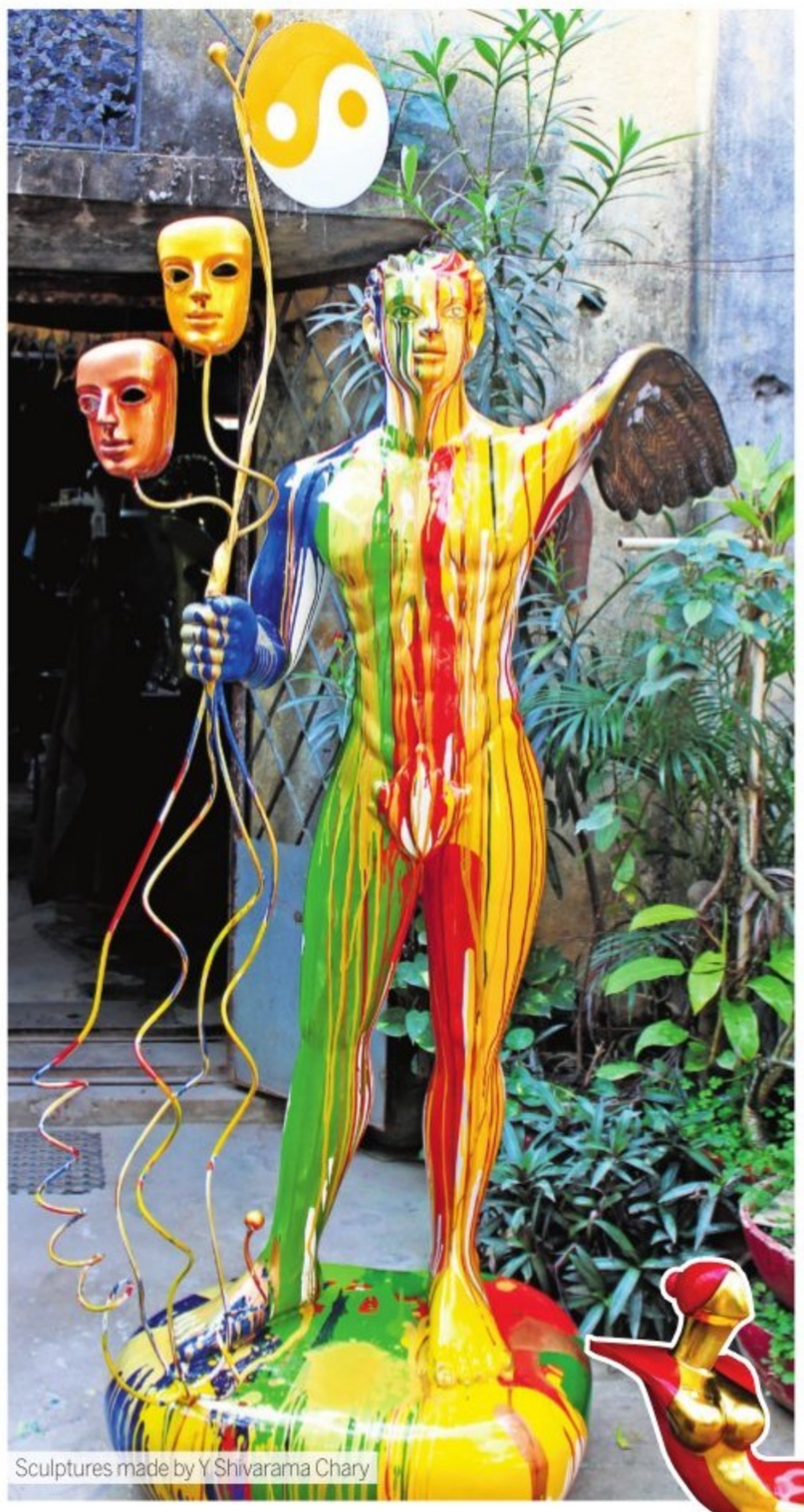
Besides *Sacred Games*, Nawaz has appeared in the global series *McMafia*, directed by James Watkins. He was also a part of Garth Davies' Australian co-production Lion (2016). Speaking about his international career, Nawaz says, "Global projects have a different rhythm. There's a lot more professionalism and discipline. They are also well prepared with the script."

Nawaz names 'Thackeray' as his favourite role in recent years. "An actor always likes the role where he has to work the hardest. Thackeray, for me, was a huge challenge. I worked on his physicality, dialogue delivery, thought process... While doing a biopic, you are always scared that you don't mimic a personality. So, that was really difficult." Released in 2019, the film was criticised for glorifying Bal Thackeray's exclusionist politics. Nawaz, too, was slammed for playing a character at odds with his political identity. "For an artiste, it's always important to do different kinds of roles," Nawaz says. "That was also my search with Thackeray."

Commenting on the present situation in Bollywood, Nawaz says it's unfair to assume that only insiders make it in the industry. "There are many outsiders who have established themselves. Sooner or later, work comes around. You need to have patience for it. You can't come with a fixed target. Every person has to struggle a little in this profession."

TIME PASS

Etched in hearts



Sculptures made by Y Shivarama Chary

• **Monika Monalisa**

Popular sculptor Y Shivarama Chary was known for living and breathing art. So much so that when he recently succumbed to Covid-19, his family knew they had to keep his love for art alive. Now, city-based artist and owner of Reves Art Gallery, **Rajini Rekha**, is doing an online art show named Trending Tweets, which will showcase Shivarama Chary's artworks, which started from Sept. 11. Besides a tribute, the show is also a fundraiser, with proceedings going to his family. "It was shocking to hear of his demise. His mother tested Covid positive too but while she made it, he couldn't," says Rekha, who is curating the event. Though Chary, who is survived by his wife and two daughters, hailed from Hyderabad, his art shows have been a regular in Bengaluru's art circle.

The online show, which ends on Sept. 25, will showcase 10 of Chary's works, while 15 will be contributions from five artists, who were ready to give their share of the funds raised for the cause. Chary was known for his distinct contemporary installations and usage of materials like bronze, steel, wood and mixed media. His works usually have many takers, but according to Rekha, these are bad times. "No one would want to spend money on art. Chary's work belonged to bigger spaces because of the size. We are reaching out to different art connoisseurs and hoteliers, who might be more willing to pick his artwork," says Rekha, who is choosing to look at the glass as half full. "People can get a chance to own a piece made by Chary, which they are not going to get again."

Get in touch with Reves Gallery for more details.

CITY READ

Career fair for women returning to work

HerRising 2020, a virtual conference and career fair for women returning to work, is being organised on Sept. 19. Besides the career fair, workshops led by industry experts and a special award ceremony will be held for women. The list of speakers includes Debjani Ghosh, president, Nasscom; Leena Nair, CHRO and member of the Unilever Leadership Executive (ULE), Unilever; Deepti Varma, head - corporate HR, APAC and Middle East, Amazon; and Partha DeSarkar, wholetime executive director and global CEO, HGS. For registration, check the JobsForHer website. The event will take place from 9am to 6pm.

Mum's (not) the word

• **Monika Monalisa**

Sima Taparia may have emerged as the most trending marriage consultant recently but this Kannadiga mother sure can give her tough competition. One of the popular stars of Saad Khan's latest comedy sketch *Amma and Shekhara*, this character is all geared up to find a suitable match for her NRI son, Shekhara. Khan's sketch, which is on YouTube completed two months and often features the banter between NRI Shekhara, portrayed by Khan himself, and his Kannadiga mother, played by actor Shalini Narayan.

Answering the million dollar question about Shekhara's marriage, Narayan says, "Amma is definitely going to find a good Kannadiga girl for him." Khan quickly intervenes, "Shekhara is not going to agree to it anytime soon." Khan and Narayan came together sometime in July when the duo got a chance to play mother and son during an improv practice. Khan put out a snippet of the piece on social media and currently, it is at around 1.2 million views. The popularity motivated Khan to explore a mini series.

The inspiration for Shekhara came from Khan's experiences in the US 10 years ago, while he studied filmmaking. "I met many Indians who would visit the US for few months but develop an American accent," says Khan, who first worked with Narayan in the *Humble Politicial Nograj* movie. But for Amma, he didn't have look around too much for inspiration. "She is any Indian parent that millennials would have, one who often tells off the child to discipline them." The characters may be exaggerated but the duo have managed to amass a lot of love. "The characters don't have any animosity. Though they can't stand each other, they don't give up since they love each other," says 42-years-old Narayan.

This mini series did receive its share of controversy as well. "I was speaking to one of my friends from Kodagu and got to know about Kailpodhu, a festival where they worship their weapons. One of our episodes was on this but we had to bring that video down because people found it inappropriate," says Khan, who does not want to stop his series just yet. "I want to see how these characters evolve," he says.

Saad Khan

Shalini Narayan

QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

PAPAYA BIRYANI

INGREDIENTS

- **Papaya:** 100 gm, grated
- **Basmati rice:** 100 gm
- **Bay leaf:** 2
- **Cardamom:** 2
- **Cloves:** 2
- **Cinnamon:** 1 inch
- **Ginger-garlic paste:** 1 tsp
- **Turmeric powder:** 1/4 tsp
- **Garam masala:** 1/2 tsp
- **Green chilli:** 2
- **Oil:** 2 tbsp
- **Onion:** 1, chopped
- **Mint leaves and curry leaves:** a few
- **Lemon juice:** 1/2 tsp
- **Salt** as per taste

METHOD

- Soak rice for 30 minutes.
- In a cooker. Pour oil and add all the spices.
- Then add onion, chilli. Cook on medium heat until they turn brown. Keep stirring.
- Add ginger-garlic paste and saute for two minutes.
- Add papaya, turmeric powder, and cook for 3 minutes.
- Add garam masala, mint and curry leaves and salt. Pour 150 ml water.
- Add soaked rice and pressure cook for three whistles.
- Sprinkle lemon juice and ghee on top.

TIP: You can add other vegetables too and cook the biryani in coconut milk instead of water.

– Sundari Ghandhi, Chennai

SPACE WATCH

GLOBAL CLUSTER NFC 1805

In this recent image taken by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope of the global cluster NFC 1805, many colourful stars are packed close together. This tight grouping of thousands of stars is located near the edge of the Large Magellanic Cloud, a satellite galaxy of our own Milky Way. The stars orbit closely to one another, like bees swarming around a hive. In the dense centre of one of these clusters, stars are 100 to 1,000 times closer together than the nearest stars are to our sun, making planetary systems around them unlikely.

The striking difference in star colours, which combines different types of light: blue stars, shining brightest in near-ultraviolet light, and red stars, illuminated in red and near-infrared are captured. Space telescopes like Hubble can observe in the ultraviolet because they are positioned above Earth's atmosphere, which absorbs most ultraviolet light, making it inaccessible to ground-based facilities.

This young globular cluster can be seen from the Southern Hemisphere, in the Dorado constellation, which is Portuguese for dolphinfish. Usually, globular clusters contain stars that are born at the same time. Observing such clusters of stars can help astronomers understand how stars evolve, and what factors determine whether they end their lives as white dwarfs or explode as supernovae.

Source: European Space Agency

BRIGHT SPOT

MAKING WAY FOR WATER

Laungi Bhuiyan from Bihar has carved out a three-kilometre canal to take rainwater coming down from nearby hills to the fields of his village, Kothilawa in Lahthua area of Gaya in Bihar. "It took me 30 years to dig this canal which takes the water to a pond in the village," said Bhuiyan, who has dug out the canal single-handedly in Gaya. For the last 30 years, he used to go to the nearby jungle to tend to his cattle and dig out the canal. No one joined him in this endeavour. The village is surrounded by dense forest and mountains. It is marked as a refuge for Maoists. The main means of livelihood for the people in Gaya are farming and animal husbandry. During the rainy season, the water falling from the mountains used to flow into the river, which used to bother Bhuiyan following which he thought of carving out a canal.

Source: ANI

APPSMART

Waze

Even if you know the way, Waze tells you about traffic, construction, police, crashes, and more in real-time.

Available on: Android & iOS

SketchBook

You never know when a great idea will strike, so access to fast and powerful creative sketching tools is an invaluable part of any creative process.

Available on: Android

Slack

Slack brings team communication and collaboration into one place so you can get more work done.

Available on: Android & iOS

SOUND BOARD

A STATE OF MIND

From mindfulness to sustainability, the podcast features provocative, in-depth conversations with people on topics they are passionate about and want to share with the world.

- On Spotify

REAL LIFE GHOST STORIES

The hosts discuss hauntings, ghosts, death, aliens, psychology, skeptics and everything in between. In each episode, they review their favourite paranormal shows and movies.

- On Spotify

MATERS OF SCALE

From Nike to Netflix, Starbucks to Slack – CEOs share the stories and strategies that helped them grow from start-ups into global brands with entrepreneur Reid Hoffman in this business podcast.

- On Apple Podcast

THE TONY ROBBIN PODCAST

American author shares proven strategies and tactics for you to achieve massive results in your business, relationships, health and finances. You'll also find insightful interviews with the most prominent masterminds and experts on the global stage.

- On Stitcher

30 FOR 30 PODCASTS

30 for 30 offers captivating storytelling for sports fans and general interest listeners alike, going beyond the field to explore how sports, competition, athleticism and adventure that affect our lives and our world.

- On Apple Podcasts

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

MUNGARU MALE 2

Preetham, the son of Suryakanth, a millionaire, easily gets bored when it comes to relationships. He understands love after he meets Nandini.

- Cast: Ganesh, Neha Shetty, V. Ravichandran

RAMACHARI

Ramachari and Divya fall in love after the former saves her from a group of bullies in their college. However, they part ways when Divya begins to question his behaviour, trust and way of life.

- Cast: Yash, Radhika Pandit

PUTTARAJU LOVER OF SHASHIKALA

Puttaraju tries everything to woo his classmate, Shashikala, but she has to leave school after her father gets transferred to Shivamogga.

- Cast: Amith Gowda, Jayashree Aradhya

ARINTHUM ARIYAMALUM

A college student files a police complaint against the adopted son of a gangster for shooting his girlfriend. However, the gangster is shocked to learn that the student is his real son.

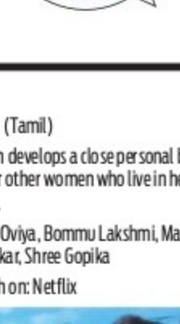
- Cast: Navdeep, Arya, Prakash Raj, Sameksha

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE LAST LIVING MEMBERS OF AN EXTINCT SPECIES BY JAN STEJSKAL

In the savannahs of Kenya, Nájin and Fatu, are the last two known northern white rhinos left on Earth. Their species is functionally extinct – without a male, they can't reproduce. And yet, there's still hope to revive the northern white rhino. How can that be? Jan Stejskal dives into the science of reviving a dying species.



2 WHY DON'T PERPETUAL MOTION MACHINES EVER WORK? BY NETTA SCHRAMM

Perpetual motion machines – devices that can do work indefinitely without any external energy source – have captured many inventors' imaginations because they could transform our relationship with energy. But they don't work. Why not? Netta Schramm describes the pitfalls of perpetual motion machines.

3 CAN YOU SOLVE THE SORTING HAT RIDDLE? BY DAN KATZ AND ALEX ROSENTHAL

It's your first day at Magnificent Marigold's Magical Macademy. The Macademy had 8 founders who established four houses, and there was once a mysterious fifth house. Can you figure out who founded what? Dan Katz and Alex Rosenthal show how.

4 DEFINING CYBERWARFARE... IN HOPES OF PREVENTING IT BY DANIEL GARRIE

Cyberware is unique in that it is not covered by existing legal framework and it often inspires more questions than we are yet capable of answering. Daniel Garrie ponders some of the practical and ethical dilemmas that may pop up as we progress towards our uncertain future.

5 WHY SOME OF US DON'T HAVE ONE TRUE CALLING BY EMILIE WAPNICK

If you're not sure you want to do just one thing for the rest of your life, you're not alone. In this talk, writer and artist Emilie Wapnick describes the kind of people she calls "multipotentialites" – who have a range of interests and jobs over one lifetime.

FIT BIT

YOGADANDASANA

(YOGI STAFF POSE)

In Sanskrit, yoga means 'to unite', danda means 'staff', and asana means 'pose'. It requires a great deal of flexibility, especially in the hips and pelvis. Traditionally, it activates the Svadisthana (sacral) chakra, which stimulates creativity and sensuality. It helps to reduce anxiety or fear of pleasure as well. It is generally only attempted by advanced yoga practitioners. It can be compared to Nadi Shodhana, which also helps to regulate the energy in the body. It can be relaxing, and students can be encouraged to sit for longer durations, focusing on the inflow and outflow of breath, to go into deep meditation.

STEPS

- First, sit on the floor in Dandasana.
- Next, bend your right leg at the knee and bring the right foot beside the right hip. Your right leg will now be in Virasana.
- Now, move your left leg to the left to widen the distance between your thighs and bend it at the knee so that your left foot is near your right knee.
- With your right hand catch your left foot. Turn your trunk to the right with an exhalation, turn your left foot up towards the chest, keeping your left knee on the floor.
- Take a few breaths and, with an exhalation, draw your left foot up underneath your left armpit. Your left foot now rests like a crutch under the left armpit which the sole touches.
- After taking a few breaths, exhale, move your left arm from the shoulder round your left foot and bring it behind the back.
- Then, move your right arm from the shoulder behind the back and clasp your left forearm, turn your head to the left, raise your chin and gaze up.
- Stay in the pose for about 30 seconds, taking deep breaths.
- Release your hands, straighten your legs and relax.
- Repeat the pose on the other side for the same length of time.

BENEFITS

- The spine is rested and the body relaxed.
- Makes the knees and ankles more elastic in movement.
- Helps improve posture.
- Strengthens back muscles.
- Lengthens and stretches the spine.
- Helps to relieve complications related to the reproductive organs.
- Stretches shoulders and chest.
- Nourishes the body's resistance to back and hip injuries.
- Helps to calm brain cells.

LIMITATIONS

- Don't practise this on a slippery space.
- Always practise this on an empty stomach.
- People with high blood pressure should avoid it.
- Do not practise if you have a back, wrist or any other injury.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science), at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

ODEYA (Kannada)

Gajendra owns a transport company and also takes care of local residents, citizens and poor people with utmost care and affection. He and his four brothers lead a happy life helping the needy and protecting them from anti-social elements.

- Cast: Darshan, Sanah Thimmayyah, Yashas Surya
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

TAXIWALA (Telugu)

Shiva settles for the job of a cab driver after quitting several odd jobs. However, things take a turn when he faces spine-chilling incidents while driving and tries to solve the mystery.

- Cast: Priyanka Jawalkar, Vijay Deverakonda, Malavika Nair
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

HULIRAYA (Kannada)

A man, who grows up in the forests of Karnataka, travels to the city to find better work opportunities on his mother's insistence.

- Cast: Balu Nagendra, Divya Uruduga, Chirashree Anchan, Rakshit Shetty
- Watch on: Zee5
- Registration: ₹ 99 per month

MUMBAI POLICE (Malayalam)

ACP Antony Moses has managed to track down his friend's killer when he meets with an accident resulting in partial memory loss. Soon, he is reassigned to investigate the murder and find the culprit.

- Cast: Prithviraj Sukumaran, Jayasurya, Rahman, Aparna Nair
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

ISHQIYA (Hindi)

Khalujan and Babban, two rogues, fall in love with Krishna, their friend's widow. However, Krishna manipulates them into carrying out her bidding for her selfish gain.

- Cast: Naseeruddin Shah, Arshad Warsi, Vidya Balan, Salman Shahid
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

90ML (Tamil)

A woman develops a close personal bond with four other women who live in her building.

- Cast: Oviya, Bommu Lakshmi, Masoom Shankar, Shree Gopika
- Watch on: Netflix

ANBE SIVAM (Tamil)

A communist and a filmmaker develop a friendship despite different ideologies on a journey from Bhubaneshwar to Chennai while facing various difficulties.

- Cast: Kamal Haasan, R Madhavan, Nassar, Kiran Rathod, Uma Riyaz Khan
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

FOREIGN

BIG LITTLE LIES (English)

Madeline, Celeste and Jane are a trio of wealthy young women in Monterey, California. Their lives are shattered when a murder takes place in their idyllic town, unravelling a can of worms.

- Cast: Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Shailene Woodley, Zoë Kravitz, Laura Dern
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

ATONEMENT (English)

Briony Tallis falsely accuses her sister's lover, Robbie, of a crime, after she catches them in a compromising position.

- Cast: Keira Knightley, James McAvoy, Saoirse Ronan
- Watch on: Netflix

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (English)

Mrs Bennet insists that her daughters find rich husbands and settle down. When a wealthy bachelor starts living near them, Mrs Bennet's happiness knows no bounds.

- Cast: Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen, Rosamund Pike
- Watch on: Netflix

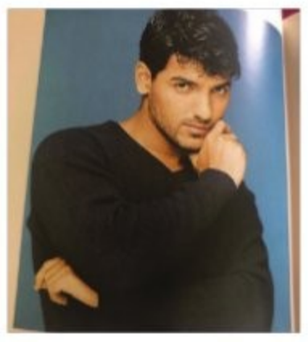
LITTLE FIRES EVERYWHERE (English)

Following the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and an enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives. Set in Shaker Heights, Ohio in the 1990s.

- Cast: Kerry Washington, Reese Witherspoon, Lexi Underwood, Joshua Jackson
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

- **Amazon Prime:** ₹ 129/month
- **Netflix:** ₹ 199/month
- **Disney+Hotstar:** ₹ 399/year

By The Way



Toast to good times

Prasad Bidapa's recent throwback picture is a blast from the past. The fashion guru recently posted an old picture of John Abraham and said, "John Abraham was a model and then broke into Bollywood. His Dad is Malayali & Mom Parsi. We featured him in *Catwalk Cuisine*, the book I wrote with Parvana Boga Noorani. His favourite Parsi dishes are here - Patra Ni Macchi which is fish steamed in Banana Leaves, Dhansak Dal - spiced lentils with mutton, Brown Rice and that famous Parsi sweet Lagan nu Custer, the Parsi wedding custard. Enjoy!"

CITY READ

New hotel in town

Concept Hospitality Pvt Ltd has announced the launch of its new hotel, The Zinc, Bengaluru. This is the fifth hotel the company is launching in Karnataka. As an introductory offer, the hotel is offering special offers, which will be valid up to September 30.

Power shutdown

There will be power supply interruption in the city from 10am to 5pm on Sept. 15 and 16. Areas that would be affected include: HSR 1st Sector, 27th main road, 13th cross to 17th cross and other surrounding areas.

Go down memory lane with this exhibition which highlights the Indo-French partnership in space

SATELLITES, SPACE AND BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

Jacques Blamont and Vikram Sarabhai at Thumba, 1963 | **CNES**; (left) APPLE satellite being carried on a bullock cart for telemetry test | **ISRO**

Express Features

France and India, according to Consul General of France, Dr Marjorie Vanbaelinghem, have had an intense and fruitful strategic partnership in space programmes since the '60s. And now, an online exhibition on Indo-French partnership in space will highlight the major joint breakthroughs. Hosted by Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), it is being showcased at the International Space Conference and Exhibition from Sept. 15 to Oct. 10 and will be available on the virtual stand of CNES/France. Vanbaelinghem points out, "It is a lesser-known part of our bilateral relationship and common history. The exhibition, which features beautiful photos, is in itself an illustration of this bond of friendship as it is a collaboration between the Alliance Francaise Hyderabad, the CNES bureau of Bangalore and the Space Museum in Hyderabad, whose curator, Pranav Sharma, gives a fascinating account of the more humane side of this enterprise."

Then Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with then French President Francois Mitterrand in 1981

For instance, the Ariane Passenger PayLoad Experiment (APPLE) – the experimental communication satellite successfully launched by Ariane-1 – from Kourou, French Guiana, on June 19, 1981, marked an important milestone in India's space programme. APPLE was designed and built as a sandwich passenger-carrying Meteosat on top and Capsule Ariane Technologique. VIKRAM engine was developed by India by learning from liquid propulsion technology developed by CNES and shared with India after Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP)-ISRO Agreement signed in 1974.

According to Sharma, who has curated India's first interdisciplinary Space Museum in Hyderabad and is passionate about sharing the Indian history of science, the exhibition is an attempt to explore friendship between the two countries. "This exhibition is an extension to its predecessor that was hosted at WINGS-India 2020 in Hyderabad as a travelling exhibition. This version brings interesting insights and personal memoirs of people and their families involved during the transfer of liquid propulsion technology," he says, adding that it's meant for anyone, but may particularly be of interest to students and those interested in the history of science.

> **"France and India have had an intense and fruitful strategic partnership in space programmes since the '60s**
>
> **—Dr Marjorie Vanbaelinghem,** Consul General of France

Money matters, age no bar

Express Features

Money matters in every phase of life, more so post retirement. To know about the priority expense areas and be well-armed to tackle budgetary challenges around retirement, Silver Talkies, a city-based social enterprise startup, is holding a workshop, Money Smart Seniors.

Starting on Monday, the three-hour sessions will have experts touch upon finance topics. City-based PeakAlpha Investment Advisory will talk about personal finance and tax planning, while insurance and planning for capital expenditure will be dealt by Chennai-based iThought Advisory. "Not everyone has a CA. Some need to figure out details themselves. The workshop will cover inflation, taxation, asset classes and financial planning," says **Nidhi Chawla**, cofounder, Silver Talkies, adding that seniors have several expenses, including medical, travel and in some cases, senior home costs. "This workshop helps you avoid falling victim to mis-selling, understand insurance and plan large expenses within your retirement corpus," she adds.

The workshop has seen more registrations from women. "It's thought that women find finance overwhelming, but the registration shows otherwise," says Chawla, who adds that the virtual experience will not be a problem since seniors have adapted to technology.

The final day includes a session on the process of writing a will by Shiv Kumar, advocate, Karnataka High Court. "It will focus on making valid and legally enforceable bequests under a will, and dispelling myths and errors made while making one," says Chawla.

The workshop will be held on Sept. 14, 16, 18. Call 6362890768.

LEISURE AND LEARNING

Relationship is life; without some kind of relationship one cannot exist. The hermit, the monk, however they may withdraw from the world, carry the world with them. They may deny it; they may suppress it, they may torture themselves, but they still remain in some kind of relation with the world, for they are the result of thousands of years of tradition, superstition and all the knowledge that man has gathered through millennia. So there is no escape from it all.

There is a relationship between the educator and the student. Does the teacher maintain, whether knowingly or unknowingly, a sense of superiority, always standing on a pedestal, making the student feel inferior, the one who has to be taught? Obviously in this there is no relationship. From this arises fear on the part of the student, a sense of pressure and strain, and therefore the student learns, from his youth, about this quality of superiority. He is made to feel belittled, and so throughout life he either becomes the aggressor or is continuously yielding and subservient.

A school is a place of leisure, where the educator and the one to be educated are both learning. This is the central fact of the school-to learn. We do not mean by leisure having time to oneself, though that is also necessary. It does not mean taking a book and sitting under a tree or in your bedroom, reading casually. It does not mean having a placid state of mind, and it certainly does not mean being idle or using time for daydreaming. Leisure means having a mind that is not constantly occupied with something, with a problem, with some enjoyment, with some sensory pleasure. Leisure implies that a mind has infinite time to observe what is happening around oneself and within oneself, to listen, to see clearly. Leisure implies freedom, which is generally translated as doing as one desires, which is what human beings are doing anyway, causing a great deal of mischief, misery and confusion. Leisure is having a quiet mind, with no motive and so no direction. It is only in this state of leisure that the mind can learn, not only science, history, mathematics but also about oneself. And one can learn about oneself in relationship.

Can all this be taught in our schools, or is it something you read about and either memorize or forget? When the teacher and the taught are involved in really understanding the extraordinary importance of relationship, then they are establishing in the school a right relationship among themselves. This is part of education, greater than merely teaching academic subjects.

Relationship requires a great deal of intelligence. It cannot be bought in a book or be taught. It is not the accumulated result of great experience. Knowledge is not intelligence. Knowledge can be clever, bright and utilitarian, but that is not intelligence. Intelligence can use knowledge. Intelligence comes naturally and easily when the whole nature and structure of relationship is seen. That is why it is important to have leisure so that the man or the woman, the teacher or the student can quietly and seriously talk over their relationship, so that their actual reactions, susceptibilities, and barriers are seen, not imagined, not twisted to please each other or suppressed in order to placate the other.

Surely this is the function of a school: to help the student to awaken his intelligence and to learn the great importance of right relationship.

-Jiddu Krishnamurti

PLAY ON

Arjun Sukumaran

(Arjun is a gamer, book lover and an all-round renaissance man)

Game on, in a hospital

Like many other people who were introduced to gaming in the course of the 1990s, I had a lot of fun with the various business simulations that were around then - Rollercoaster Tycoon was probably the most well-known of the lot, but there were a host of others, including Bullfrog's acclaimed Theme Hospital. Today, we're taking a look at a modern-day spiritual descendant of the latter - Two Point Hospital.

In Two Point Hospital, you are an administrator who's tasked with constructing and operating a number of hospitals in various regions of Two Point County. Each location usually features unique challenges to overcome as well as special illnesses to treat, and it's up to you to make each hospital as successful as possible.

Of course, visiting a hospital at any time can be an ordeal, let alone in the current global scenario; so you'd be forgiven for wondering if this is perhaps a bit ill-timed. Thankfully, Two Point Hospital has its tongue so firmly wedged into its cheek, it might require surgery. Like Theme Hospital before it, this is an extremely light-hearted game that can be genuinely hilarious at times; from the illnesses themselves, which are universally groan-inducing puns, to the spectacular visual design - calling an illness that makes people think they're celebrity Mock Star is fine, but making them all look and walk like a cross between Freddie Mercury and Elvis? Genius! Even the random radio announcements that play occasionally have been carefully crafted, and there's more than one laugh-out-loud gag in there. This game oozes charm and polish from every pore, and it's clearly a labour of love.

Okay, so it looks (and sounds!) wonderful, but how does it play? The answer to that is 'pretty much exactly as you want it to'. What that means is that you can play this game very seriously, keeping an eye on all your capabilities, and expanding slowly over time, or you can wing it and launch yourself headlong in various directions as each scenario plays out - you're going to have fun either way. There's a lot of joy to be had in discovering the various new features and opportunities each hospital provides, and that sense of exploration is always rewarding. However, this forgiving nature does mean that people who are looking for a heavyweight nose-to-the-grindstone sort of business simulation are in the wrong place here; although they probably would've known that from the almost criminally jaunty soundtrack in the first place.

Overall, Two Point Hospital is a wonderful tribute and love letter to not just Theme Hospital, but that entire golden age of business simulation video games. Don't be scared off by that 'business simulation' tag either - this is one of the most relaxing games I've played recently.

Perhaps the best example I can provide to illustrate just how charming this game can be is the fact that every single time I booted this one up, intending to play for a short burst at most, I'd inevitably wind up glued to it hours later - something which only the extremely immersive or extremely pleasant games can boast.

WHAT'S NEW?

Crusader Kings III

Crusader Kings II was hailed as a spectacular game of politics and intrigue, but also seemed marginally more daunting than actually running a medieval kingdom. Its long-awaited sequel is finally here, but can it retain the depth of its predecessor while improving accessibility?

Marvel's Avengers

Earth's Mightiest Heroes are finally getting a big-ticket video game, and it's out already. Initial reviews are mixed, but for a game that emphasises multiplayer co-op, there's reason for optimism that many of the rough edges will be polished over time.

Crysis Remastered

Given that the original was used as a technical benchmark for literal years, Crysis Remastered has some big shoes to fill. Good news is that the initial glimpses of it in action look like it might actually do a decent job of that.

SMART ADS

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KRISHNA TO PLAY A STEWARD IN NAGASHEKAR'S *SRIKRISHNA@GMAIL.COM*

Krishna

Shooting for the romantic drama bankrolled by Sandesh Productions began on Sept. 7; the film also stars Bhavana as a lawyer

A Sharadhaa

Shooting for Nagashekar's upcoming bilingual, *Srikrishna@gmail.com*, made in Kannada and Malayalam, started in Mysuru on Sept. 7. It has *Love Mocktail* hero Krishna, Dattanna and Sadhu Kokila currently participating in the shoot. The director has come up with a unique storyline for the romantic comedy-drama, which explores the subject of extra-marital affairs and live-in relationships. It has now come to light that Krishna plays the role of a steward in the film. The movie, which blends a serious issue with humour, has *Tagaru* heroine Bhavana playing the female lead. She will appear in a lawyer's role.

Made under the banner of Sandesh Productions, this will be the first collaboration of actor Krishna and Bhavana with director Nagashekar. *Srikrishna@gmail.com* has dialogues written by director Preetham Gubbi, while Satya Hegde is taking care of cinematography. Arjuna Janya will be composing music for the film, with Kaviraj writing lyrics for the song. The technical crew will include stunt director Ravi Varma, and dance choreographers Imran Sardhariya and Dhananjay.

Krishna is currently juggling the shooting for *Srikrishna@gmail.com* and for his upcoming directorial, *Love Mocktail 2*, which also has him playing the lead. Director Nagashekar is making his directorial debut in Tollywood with the Kannada remake of *Love Mocktail* in Telugu, which has been titled *Gurthunda Seethakalam*. Meanwhile, Bhavana has been busy with Shivarajkumar-starrer *Bhajarangi 2*. The film, directed by Harsha, is currently in the last phase of the shooting schedule.

Puneeth Rajkumar

James crew gears up for shooting

The crew of the Puneeth Rajkumar-starrer commercial entertainer directed by Chethan Kumar recently travelled across Karnataka to finalise the shooting locations

CE Features

Puneeth Rajkumar is getting ready to resume the shooting for director Santhosh Ananddram's *Yuvarathnaa* from Sept. 20. It is expected to get over by Oct. 10. Meanwhile, the crew of *James* is getting ready to start the project. The action commercial entertainer, produced by Kishore Pathikonda, brings together director Chethan Kumar and Puneeth Rajkumar. They had begun shooting in March with fight sequences choreographed by Ravi Varma and had even completed a schedule before the lockdown.

The team, including the art director and cameraman, recently travelled across Karnataka for five days on a recce to finalise the shooting locations. In all likelihood, they will start rolling James in mid-October. Meanwhile, music director Charan Raj, who is composing the music for a film starring Puneeth Rajkumar for the first time, is currently busy with the job. The team is also in the process of finalising the star cast, including the heroine, antagonists, and supporting characters. According to our sources, they are planning to bring on board some well-known artistes from Sandalwood as well as other regions. *James* has created a buzz just with its title and posters, and there are a lot of expectations surrounding the film.

Actor along with Chethan Kumar

Madagaja team plans 25-day schedule in Mysuru; to resume shoot on Sept. 19

Sriimurali

Ashika Ranganath

CE Features

Sriimurali has been waiting to resume shooting for his upcoming film, *Madagaja*, and he will finally start filming it on Sept. 19. The team, including the hero, producer Umapathy, and director Mahesh Kumar met a couple of days ago to discuss the shooting details, and they have finalised a location at a government guesthouse in Mysuru, where they have planned a 25-day schedule. The team, which had completed a major schedule at Varanasi just before the lockdown, is through with 25 per cent of the shoot. They will now begin with filming the talkie portions for 18 days, and follow it with a major block of fight sequences to be choreographed by stunt masters Ram-Lakshman, which is planned to be shot for seven days. Participating in the shoot along with hero Sriimurali will be Ashika Ranganath, who plays the female lead, and Rangayana Raghu, Chikkanna, Shivaraj K R Pete, and the rest of the star cast.

Madagaja is Mahesh Kumar's second outing after *Ayogya*. It is bankrolled by Umapathy Films. The film's music, composed by Ravi Basrur, consists of four songs. Lyrics for two tracks have been written by Chethan Kumar, while Ravi Basrur and Kinnal Raj will pen one song each. *Mufti* cinematographer Naveen Kumar is handling the camerawork for *Madagaja* and Harish Kombe has written the dialogues.

Actor along with producer S Umapathy, director Mahesh Kumar

Manoj Bajpayee starts dubbing for web-series, *The Family Man 2*

CE Features

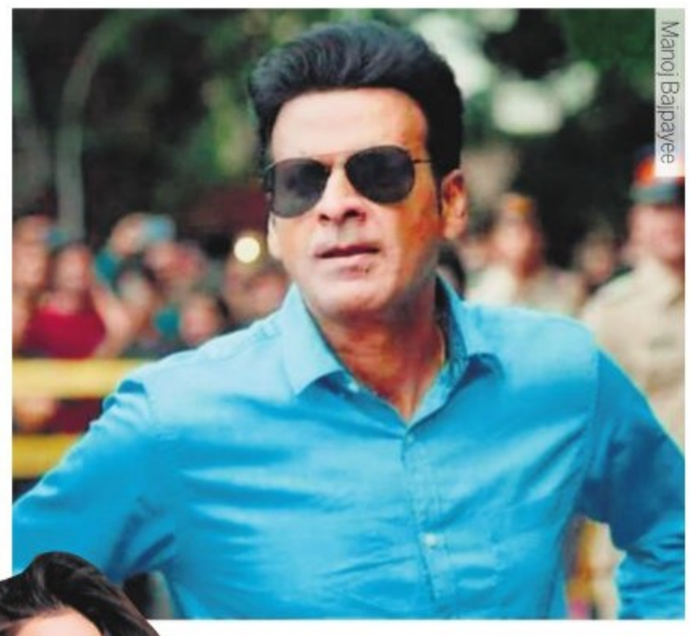
Manoj Bajpayee has started dubbing for the second season of his hit web-series, *The Family Man*.

"Dubbing for *THE FAMILY MAN 2*," Manoj tweeted, along with a picture of himself at the dubbing studio.

Manoj made his digital debut with *The Family Man* last year. He plays a seemingly simple middle-class man who actually works for a special cell of the National Investigation Agency. The story tracks his life as he tries to protect the nation and balancing his family life along with his struggles due to the low-paying nature of the job.

The action drama series by Raj Nidimoru and Krishna DK blended thrills and humour, which made it endearing.

Samantha Akkineni has joined the cast in season two of the series, which features Priyamani, Sharib Hashmi, Darshan Kumar, Sharad Kelkar, Sunny Hinduja, Shreya Dhanwantary, Shahab Ali, Vedant Sinha and Mahek Thakur.


Manoj Bajpayee

Tanya Hope

Tanya Hope gets ready for a bike trip in *Edhe Maa Katha*

Actor has bagged a Telugu film directed by Guru Pawan; she is paired opposite Sumanth Ashwin

CE Features

Tanya Hope on a 3450 km ride? Yes, the actor is set to be part of yet another road film. Titled *Edhe Maa Katha,* the Guru Pawan directorial, will have Tanya starring opposite Sumanth Ashwin. The model-turned-heroine, who hails from Bengaluru, has now established herself across South Indian film industries, made her acting debut in the Telugu film, *Appatlo Okadundevaduand*. The actor, who later worked in Kannada in the Darshan-starrer *Yajamana* has also worked in Tamil films like *Thadam* and *Dharala Prabhu*.

Edhe Maa Katha, a project she signed after the lockdown, comes with the tag line -- Rider's Story. The film revolves around a road trip, and will have the lead actors riding bikes to Manali. The actor, who was previously part of a road film, *Amar,* starring Abhishek Ambareesh, gets to ride a bike in *Edhe Maa Katha* too.

Produced by G Mahesh's Gurappa Parameshwara Productions, *Edhe Maa Katha* also stars Srikanth, along with Sameer, Sapthagiri, Srijitha Ghosh, Satyam Rajesh, and Trivikram Sai in pivotal roles. The film music will be scored by Sunil Kashyap and C Ram Prasad will be cranking the camera.

Amitabh Bachchan launches first look of thriller series, *Crackdown*

CE Features

Amitabh Bachchan has unveiled the first look of the web series, *Crackdown,* which stars Saqib Saleem and Iqbal Khan.

"Happy to reveal #*Crackdown*, my friend #lakhiaapoorva's new show... All the very best Apu," Big B tweeted on Saturday.

The espionage thriller marks the digital debut of director Apoorva Lakhia and also features Shriya Pilgaonkar, Waluscha De Sousa, Rajesh Tailang and Ankur Bhatia.

The teaser of the show is action-packed with high octane sequences. Starting with a visual of Qutub Minar in Delhi, it shows scenes of multiple attacks at a hospital and in a crowded market.